

# Classes Cancelled Today!

MIT's  
Oldest and Largest  
Newspaper



## The Weather

Today: Light snow, 31°F (-1°C)  
Tonight: Lingering snow, 22°F (-6°C)  
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, 37°F (-3°C)  
Details, Page 2

Volume 123, Number 5

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, February 18, 2003

## MIT To File Amicus Brief in UMich Case

By Nathan Collins  
NEWS EDITOR

A racially and ethnically diverse student population "will be essential to our nation's future economic strength," according to an MIT brief to be filed with the Supreme Court today.

MIT is filing the *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) brief in support of the University of Michigan's race-based admissions policy. Additionally, 300 other universities and businesses will join to file a total of about 50 briefs, according to the statement.

In a statement, Vest argued that diversity is important for several reasons, and that universities must retain the right to use race as a selection criteria to achieve diversity. This is true for public and private institutions, he said, and a diverse work force is essential to a strong economy.

### Brief discusses affirmative action

The brief seems primarily aimed at one of two questions the Court is likely to wrestle with in *Gruter v.*

*Bollinger and Gratz v. Bollinger*, the University of Michigan cases — whether a diverse student population is a "compelling state interest." With the *Adarand Constructors v. Peña* decision in 1995, which led to increased scrutiny of affirmative action programs, the Court insisted that affirmative actions programs be narrowly tailored and serve a compelling state interest.

Vest's statement and a fact sheet about the brief provided by the MIT News Office stress a diverse student population and work force as central to a strong economy. One reason for this is that it would help increase the size of the science and engineering community. "We must increase the number of science and engineering students and researchers by encouraging interest in these fields among all members of our population," Vest said in his statement.

Vest and Stanford University President John L. Hennessy, a co-signer of the brief, said in their statements that diverse student bod-

Brief, Page 17

## Online Match-Up Service Gets Dates for Students

By Tiffany Kosolcharoen  
STAFF REPORTER

As of Feb. 14, the MIT-Harvard-Wellesley Valentine's Match-up <<http://www.mit.edu/matchup/>> had attracted more than 1,553 MIT undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni to sign up in the free, non-commercial online matchmaking service.

With more than 15 percent of current MIT students registered, the site has become the largest matchmaking service ever at any of the three universities. Students entered data such as height, age, major, body build, hobbies, and even their definitions of "romantic" in exchange for an e-mail listing of their top twenty matches.

Because of the success of the program, the site is holding a second match-up for all who submit their profiles by midnight on Feb. 20.

### Better selection criteria preferred

"Overall, the service was good because it was free, but a good number of the girls I was matched with were way older than me," said Adam C. Powell '06. "I got matched with 25-year-olds. ... Age should definitely play a higher role in the matchmaking program."

Powell also recommended that

users be given the ability to enter their instant messaging screennames.

Ajit Dash G said, "I thought they did a really good job in match-

Match-up, Page 8

## Simmons Hall, Building 10 Flood

By Jonathan Wang  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Simmons Hall and Building 10 were flooded on Sunday night. Damage in both buildings was limited, and the water was largely cleaned up by Monday. In both buildings, fire alarms were also triggered around the time of the flooding.

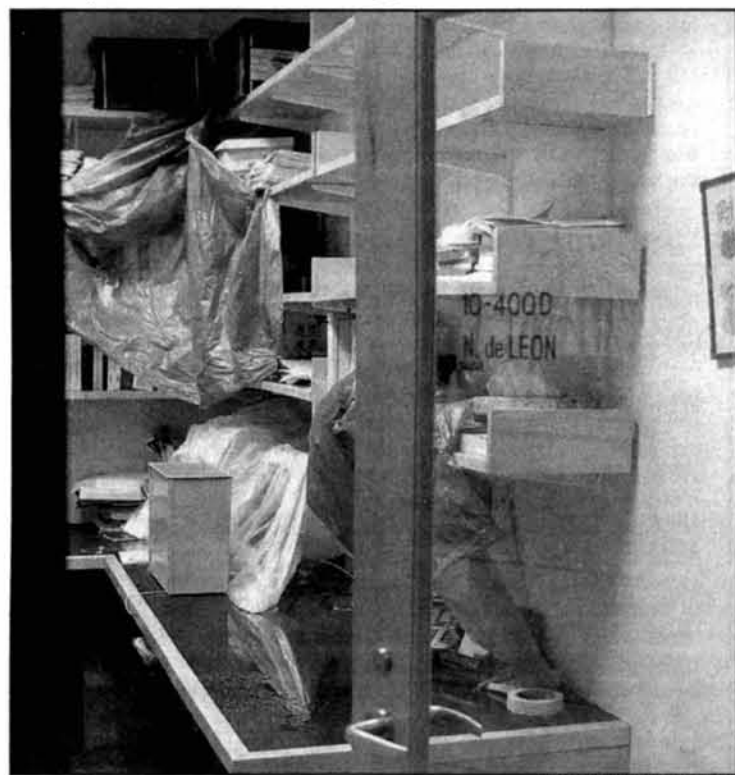
According to staff at the Department of Facilities Operations Center, water from a broken heating coil in an air handling unit caused the flooding in Building 10.

The "flood was coming down the elevator shaft," said Senior Library Assistant Carol L. Frederick, who was working in Barker Library when the flooding began.

"It was spectacular," Frederick said. The water was "seeping down the lights all the way from the entrance to the reference desk, and the reading room also, but miraculously, there was no damage," Frederick said. None of Barker Library's collection was damaged by the flooding, she said.

A smoke detector in a sixth floor electrical closet in Building 10 was set off at the same time as the flooding. The room was "wet when I walked by it," said custodian George H. Fichera.

Damage in most other rooms in Building 10 was limited, according to the Department of Facilities. "There was no equipment damage," said Facilities Communication Console Operator Christopher Gilbert.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Room 10-400D suffered the worst damage in Sunday night's flood in Building 10. A broken coil in an air handling unit caused flooding in all nine floors of Building 10.

"Everything was moved out of the labs in time, and offices were covered in plastic," he said. The worst damage appeared to have occurred in room 10-400, which suffered extensive damage to the ceiling and some

offices.

As a result of the flooding, one of the elevators in Building 10 was shut down. The Department of Facilities

Floods, Page 20

## ILGs Garner New Residents with IAP Rush

By Jia Xing

Five of MIT's Independent Living Groups (ILGs) held rush during

the Independent Activities Period, from Jan. 17 to 26. The sixth, WILG, started rush on Feb. 10 and will continue until Feb. 22.

"A significant number of freshmen did not consider rushing because they received their first choice during Fall term lottery and didn't dislike their living situation after the first term," said Tau Epsilon Phi Rush Chair Jonathan R. Barchi '04.

"I feel that many people haven't been educated in their living groups," Barchi said. In the future, he wishes to "learn to tailor prospective members to come over and explore the house."

### ILG rush a mixed bag

Student House received five new members during IAP rush. "A lot of our recruitment is done throughout the year, by word of mouth, and often starts with people coming around for dinner," said Student House President Taylor K. Hayden '04.

Epsilon Theta, a coed fraternity, publicized rush events through both the Living Group Council (LGC) and their Web site, but received no new members during IAP rush. They received five members during Fall rush.

Laura Cerritelli '03, rush chair for Epsilon Theta, said that rush did

Rush, Page 8



DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH

A student waits to cross Massachusetts Ave. Monday night. Snow, which caused the shutdown of the Institute today, will continue until mid-afternoon. See weather report, page 2.

Classes are cancelled today, and the campus is closed for 'non-essential personnel' on the first shift. Employees from the second and third shifts should call 3-SNOW for updated information.



Comics

Page 11

NEWS

The New England Board for Higher Education will give MIT an award for advancing diversity.

Page 17

World & Nation ..... 2  
Opinion ..... 4  
Arts ..... 6  
Events Calendar ..... 13



# WORLD & NATION

## Undercover Israeli Soldiers Kill a Hamas Leader

THE WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM

Israeli undercover soldiers shot and killed a top military leader of the Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, Monday in continuing retaliation for the bombing of an Israeli tank in which four soldiers were killed Saturday, according to the Israeli military and Palestinian officials.

The Israeli military said in a statement that its soldiers went into the Palestinian-run Gaza Strip to arrest the man, identified as Riyad Abu Zeid, 32, reportedly the second-ranking leader in the Hamas military wing, Izzedine al-Qassam. Zeid "was planning to carry out a massive terror attack inside Israel," the statement said, and during the operation to arrest him, Zeid and others with him opened fire on the soldiers, who returned fire. Zeid was taken into custody but died from his wounds en route to a hospital in Israel, the statement added.

Hamas officials called the killing an assassination. Palestinian officials and witnesses said Zeid and others were ambushed about 11 a.m. as they drove in a car on the coastal road in a central area of the Gaza Strip. Witnesses quoted by the Associated Press said Zeid's car was fired upon by undercover troops hiding in a blue van loaded with vegetables that was parked on the side of the road.

## Judge Eases Rules to Allow NYPD To Widen Terrorism Probes

THE WASHINGTON POST

Citing the dangerous new world Americans live in, a federal judge agreed last week to fundamentally change a long-standing court decree that limited the ability of this city's police to spy on its own citizenry.

The New York Police Department argued that it needed more elbow room to photograph, tape, and infiltrate political and social organizations suspected of ties to terror. The proposed changes would allow the police to, among other actions, investigate mosques that police officials described as largely radicalized.

The existing court order, known as the Handschu agreement, prohibits police from photographing political demonstrations, and requires some evidence of a crime before police investigate.

## Iraq Says It Has Allowed U-2 Flights to Begin

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

The first of the U-2 spy plane flights long demanded by the United Nations to aid weapons inspectors in Iraq took place Monday, the Foreign Ministry announced, in what appeared to be the latest sign that Baghdad wishes to appear more cooperative in order to blunt the chances of a U.S.-led attack.

"At 11:55 a.m., a U-2 surveillance plane entered Iraqi airspace and reconnoitered several areas of Iraq and left Iraqi airspace at 4:15 p.m.," the ministry said in a statement. "The reconnaissance operation lasted 4 hours and 20 minutes."

Iraq agreed last Monday to allow U-2 flights in the wake of a visit to the country by chief U.N. weapons inspectors Hans Blix and Mohammed ElBaradei. The two had pressed Iraqi authorities to be much more cooperative or risk a negative report on their compliance to the U.N. Security Council that could spell war with the United States.

They argued that surveillance by the high-flying aircraft over targeted areas could help verify or disprove U.S. claims that Iraq has been moving banned weapons and materials from place to place to elude detection by inspectors.

The U.N. inspectors' spokesman in Baghdad, Hiro Ueki, said late Monday that he could not confirm that a U-2 flight had taken place. However, he did say that U.N. headquarters earlier had provided Iraq with a time "window" when a flight could take place.

# Bush Plans More Diplomacy Before Final Decision on Iraq

By Mike Allen  
and Karen DeYoung  
THE WASHINGTON POST

President Bush plans at least two more weeks of diplomacy before deciding whether to attack Iraq and may support a deadline for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to visibly destroy his chemical and biological weapons, administration officials said Monday.

Officials said the United States and Britain are likely to push for an enforcement resolution in the United Nations Security Council this week. One option being considered, a senior administration official said, was a demand for "actual disarmament" by Iraq within a specified number of days.

"It would say, 'This is your last window,'" the official said.

Meeting Monday in Brussels, the 15 European Union leaders agreed that U.N. weapons inspectors should get more time to find and destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and declared that a war against Iraq "should be used only as a last resort."

Officials here and in London discussed how to regain momentum lost last week, when chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix told the council that some progress was being made,

even though Baghdad was still not cooperating fully with disarmament demands. A majority of members, including France, Russia, China and Germany, then said that inspections should be given more time before there was any consideration of the use of military force.

As the administration has tried to keep the pressure on Iraq, it often has implied in the past two months that a final deadline was near. Officials suggested Monday that Bush's rough timetable has always been slightly longer than many diplomats assumed when he announced on Jan. 30 that the issue of how to deal with Saddam would be resolved in "a matter of weeks, not months."

But this time, the administration appears to have left little room for retreat from a timetable heading toward a final decision in about two weeks. National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice on Sunday implied that what she called a "diplomatic window" would close following the next council meeting at the end of this month, when members will again hear an assessment of Iraqi cooperation from Blix. She was dismissive of a French suggestion that the council schedule yet another meeting on March 14.

U.S. and British military deployments to the Persian Gulf region will then have reached levels more than adequate for an attack by early to mid-March. Although senior military officials have said that troops could remain in the region for "months" without any action, planners have expressed concern about fighting in the intense heat that falls over the region in early spring.

While the administration has consistently maintained that it does not need another council resolution to launch an attack against Iraq, it has so far bowed to the wishes of Britain and Spain, its two main council allies. Dozens of other countries whose support the administration has claimed also have said they would prefer a U.N. imprimatur on any action.

In addition to a possible final deadline for Iraq, other possibilities for a new resolution include declaring that Iraq already has violated the November council demand that it disarm immediately and completely. The resolution would not spell out any consequences requiring members to agree to military action, but the administration would assert that such approval was implied.

# New Selection of Simpler Drugs Encourages AIDS Researchers

By Thomas H. Maugh II

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BOSTON

AIDS continues to be a devastating disease, but according to researchers, the prospects of fighting it have never looked better.

Less-complicated drug regimens are improving patients' adherence to treatment, and the array of medications now available continues to reduce the death rate despite problems of drug resistance, scientists at the 10th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections said here last week. Several newer and potentially more effective drugs are now in clinical trials, and another dozen or so promising prospects are poised to begin such trials.

"This is an exciting, important

year for therapy," said Dr. John Mellors of the University of Pittsburgh. "The pipeline is fuller than it has been for a long time."

"It's quite remarkable," added Dr. Kevin DeCock of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "You have to wonder what the end of the story will be."

There are now 16 drugs approved to treat the human immunodeficiency virus — many of them more powerful and longer-lasting than the earliest therapies.

As a consequence, many patients now are able to take two or three pills once per day, or even one pill twice daily, Mellors said.

"That's a fantastic development" that makes HIV therapy more like treating hypertension and other

more common diseases, he added.

And the ease is improving adherence to drug regimens. A few years ago, only 50 percent to 60 percent of patients took all their pills. "Now the proportion is up to 75 percent to 80 percent," Mellors said.

Those results are reflected in survival. Amanda Mocroft of the Royal Free and University College Medical School in London and her colleagues studied 9,803 people diagnosed with HIV in Europe between 1994 — just before cocktails of anti-AIDS drugs became available — and 2002.

She reported at the retrovirus conference that the risk of either developing AIDS or of dying from it had fallen 80 percent by 1998. Since then, those risks have been reduced even further.

## WEATHER

### The Worst Blizzard Of the Century ... So Far

By Efrén Gutierrez

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Yesterday, a very strong low-pressure system moved from the Mid-Atlantic states into the New England region bringing with it blizzard conditions. Winds gusted to approximately 50 miles per hour. The storm closed down several airports along the East Coast, including La Guardia and Reagan National airports.

Visibility was less than a quarter of a mile. Approximately 14-17 inches of snow fell in the region, with higher snow falls in the highlands west of Boston such as Worcester. The storm originally brought snow to the Central Plains and Ohio River valley. The warm air from the system collided with the cold arctic air coming from Canada cause pristine conditions for heavy snowfall. Luckily, the storm will be heading out to sea by mid-afternoon. Light snow will continue to fall till late in the afternoon.

Because of the severe weather conditions, MIT classes are canceled and the campus is closed for all non-essential personnel on the first shift today.

#### Extended Forecast

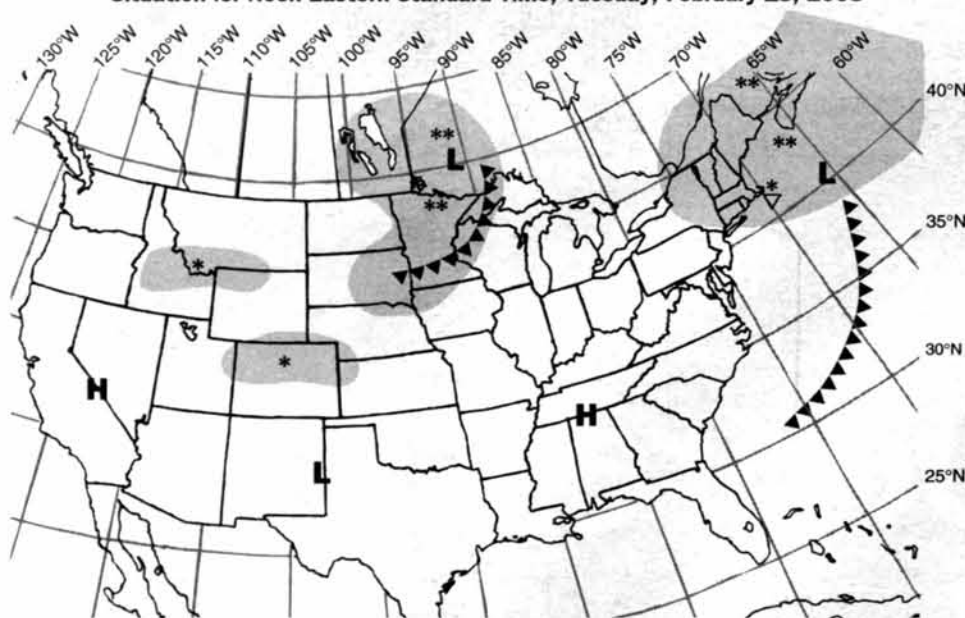
**Today:** Cloudy and light snow. Moderately windy. High 31°F (-1°C)

**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy with light lingering snow. Low 22°F (-6°C)

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny. High in the upper 30s F (2-4°C).

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny. High in the upper 30s F (2-4°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, February 18, 2003



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	☁ Snow	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	☔ Rain	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	☂ Light	☁ Haze
	▲▲▲ Stationary Front	☂ Moderate	
		☂ Heavy	

Compiled by MIT  
Meteorology Staff  
and The Tech



# Stampede at Illegal Nightclub Leaves 21 Dead, Dozens Injured

By Eric Slater  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

CHICAGO

Security guards using pepper spray to break up a fight in an illegal nightclub early Monday triggered a stampede that killed 21 people and injured more than 50, police said, as hundreds of clubgoers tried to flee the bar only to be trapped in an overcrowded stairwell.

Most of the dead appeared to have been asphyxiated and some suffered heart attacks, officials said, as they were trampled in the stairway leading from the second floor dance area of Club Epitome, a high-priced bar and restaurant that caters primarily to black patrons.

Witnesses said a second-floor door was locked and chained, and fire officials said other doors were illegally locked or blocked. The throng tried to flee down the stairwell that led to the front door of the club, known as E2. The second floor — where the patrons had been dancing — was ordered closed in the summer for repeated safety violations.

By the time firefighters arrived, the lone exit was clogged with the injured and the dead, and bodies were piled against the double-paned glass.

"It was chaos," one patron said a few hours after the disaster. "It was madness."

The stampede is reminiscent of

other incidents in which large numbers of people were trampled to death. In 1991, nine people in New York were crushed to death in a gymnasium stairwell while awaiting a celebrity basketball game. In 1979, 11 died in Cincinnati as a crowd rushed for the best seats at a concert by The Who.

"Chicago is a city in deep mourning today," said Police Supt. Terry Hilliard. "While these deaths were sudden our investigation will not be over quickly. We will get to the bottom of this."

City building codes limited the number of people in the first-floor restaurant to 327. Estimates of the number of patrons in the club ranged from 500 to as high as 1,500.

## In Face of Massive War Protests, EU Pushes For More Inspections

By Keith B. Richburg

THE WASHINGTON POST

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Acknowledging antiwar protests across the continent, the 15 European Union leaders agreed Monday night that U.N. weapons inspectors should get more time to find and destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and declared that a war against President Saddam Hussein "should be used only as a last resort."

Gathered here for an emergency summit conference to help heal deep divisions in Europe over Iraq, the leaders also warned Iraq that "inspections cannot continue indefinitely" and said Saddam must "disarm and cooperate immediately" to

avoid the attack threatened by the Bush administration.

"Baghdad should have no illusions," a summit statement said. "It must disarm and cooperate immediately and fully. Iraq has a final opportunity to resolve this crisis peacefully. The Iraqi regime alone will be responsible for the consequences if it continues to flout the will of the international community and does not take this last chance."

Despite the warning, the European declaration was marked most by what it did not say: It set no deadline for the inspections to be called off, it did not commit European countries to using force to back up U.N. resolutions on disarming Iraq, and it did not say Saddam

is already in "material breach" of existing U.N. resolutions.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the U.S. ally most closely aligned with Washington, had sought these elements to narrow the gap between his fellow European Union leaders, who want to give the U.N. inspectors more time, and a Bush administration that is saying with increasing impatience that time is up. Instead, the statement said Europe wants to disarm Iraq peacefully. And in a bow to the millions of antiwar protesters who took to the streets over the weekend, it said it is pushing for a peaceful solution to the Iraqi crisis because "it is clear that this is what the people of Europe want."

## Bush Goals Unmet in 2003 Budget

THE WASHINGTON POST

A year after President Bush pledged a grand reordering of the federal government in the wake of the attacks of 2001, Congress has produced a 2003 budget that largely leaves domestic priorities unchanged, while masking spending hikes that promise to exacerbate budget deficits for years to come.

Congress finally completed work on its 2003 budget last week with the passage of a massive, \$398 billion spending bill that funds every aspect of the government outside of the military.

The government this year will have \$763 billion in so-called discretionary budget authority, the expenditures that are subject to Congress' annual spending bills, according to the Congressional Budget Office. That is up nearly 10 percent from 2002, when the government's discretionary spending totaled \$696 billion.

Congress added about \$14 billion of discretionary spending to the president's bottom line, said James W. Dyer, the Republican staff director of the House Appropriations Committee.

But Bush claimed victory. "This budget will provide valuable resources for priorities such as homeland security, military operations and education, while adhering to the spending restraint set forth in my budget," he said in a statement. "I look forward ... to continuing a course of fiscal discipline."

Except for a dramatic increase in defense spending, however, the budget does not look much different from spending plans approved before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

## Kucinich Exploring 2004 Bid

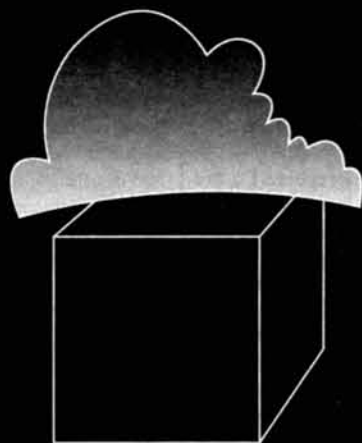
THE WASHINGTON POST

The crowded Democratic presidential field gained another entrant yesterday as Ohio Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich, an outspoken critic of President Bush's Iraq policy, announced that he will file papers Tuesday to form an exploratory committee to seek his party's 2004 presidential nomination.

Calling himself "an FDR Democrat" who is running "to return the Democratic Party to its roots," Kucinich made the announcement at a labor-sponsored conference in Altoona, Iowa, where the nomination contest will begin in January at the Iowa caucuses. Three other announced Democratic presidential contenders — Sens. John Edwards, N.C., and Joseph Lieberman, Conn., and former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean — also spoke at the conference.

Kucinich, 56, a four-term House member and former mayor of Cleveland, made clear that he will base his candidacy on an appeal to his party's most liberal members, particularly on the issue of possible war with Iraq. The Des Moines Register reported that he received an enthusiastic reception Sunday from Democratic activists in Linn County, Iowa, as he declared, "Yes, I am a candidate for peace."

"I am running to guarantee health care through Medicare for all," Kucinich said in a statement Monday. "I am running for livable wages and a full employment economy. I am running to oppose this unjustified war against Iraq."

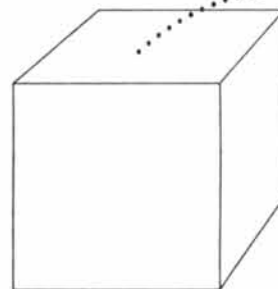


Feeling irritable?  
Can't eat?  
Can't sleep?  
Can't concentrate?  
Can't enjoy life?  
And it just goes on and on?

You could be suffering from

# Depression

Simple Fact:  
Depression is treatable.  
Get out of the dark.



Talking with someone  
confidentially might be all you need.  
It's smart to reach out.  
Make an appointment. It's free.  
Prompt appointments including evenings.  
24 hour urgent care including  
weekday 2-4 pm walk-in hours.

Mental Health Service  
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It's smart to reach out.





# OPINION



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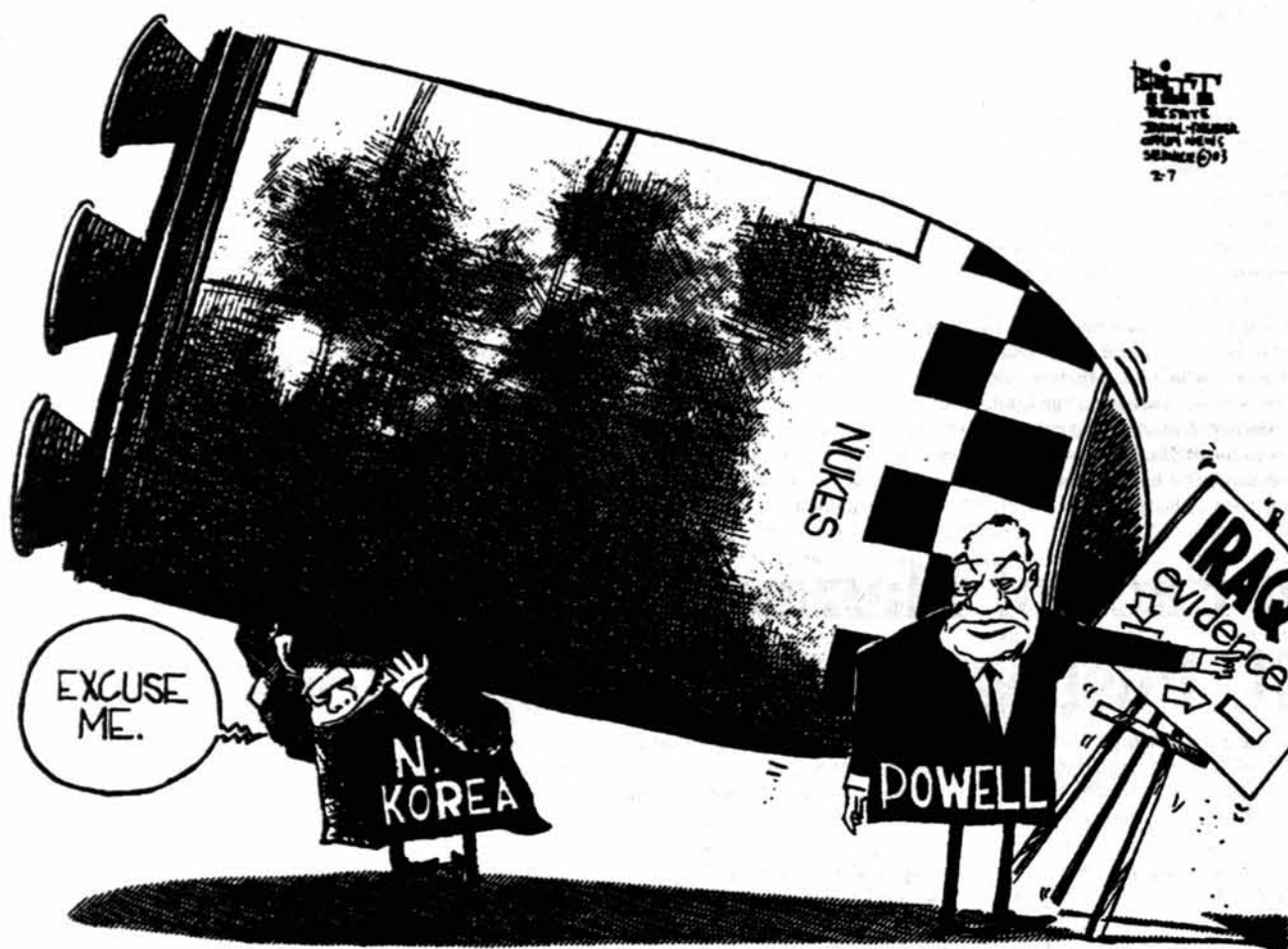
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## Letters To The Editor

### Fisk's Talk Mischaracterized

I would like to thank William Li ("Revisiting 9/11," Feb. 14) for his critique of Dr. Fisk's talk at MIT on Feb. 5. Despite the arrogant tone, the Op/Ed is the only ink this major campus event has received in *The Tech*. I would, however, like to clarify some errors and contradictions in Li's article.

Firstly, Fisk referred to the genocide of 1.5 million Christian Armenians (not Muslims) by the Ottoman Turks as the Armenian Holocaust. Additionally, he strongly objected to the use of the term "ethnic cleansing" in the media as a description of these events, an argument completely ignored by Li. The "digression" into depleted uranium shells and Iraqi suffering during both the Gulf war and the sanctions regime are not irrelevant to Sept. 11 and are not an "overplayed evocation of sympathy from the audience." These are some of the Arab peoples' most serious grievances directed towards the American government, and part of the explanation as to why bin Laden would win if democratic elections were held today in any Arab country.

Fisk never suggested that the terrible crimes against humanity in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania committed on Sept. 11 were "justified," as Li claims. In fact he repeatedly said exactly the opposite. He merely suggested that these crimes were not inexplicable considering the background of the terrorists: 19 Arab men from the Middle East.

Finally, when Li criticizes Fisk's talk for relying on "emotion" to "deliver the impact of the speech", it becomes clear that he has not read his own article's last paragraph. Indeed, the very contents and tone of the last paragraph were the inspiration for and the

main topic of the whole evening. It is acceptable that Li not agree with Fisk, but it is truly sad that he did not at least listen closely enough to go home knowing what exactly the talk was about. Fortunately, your readers who missed the event can judge Fisk's talk for themselves; it is currently available in audio format on the Web at the Technology and Culture Forum site, and will be available as digital streaming video on the MIT World Web site <<http://web.mit.edu/mitworld/>> sometime in March.

On behalf of the organizers of Dr. Fisk's talk,

Shihab Elborai G

### Make friends, or else...

When I was a freshman, I received a far more welcoming welcome from the members of the various fraternities and houses I visited during R/O than I could possibly have gotten from "The Academy," whatever that may be. New students need to make friends and form communities, in order to learn to be healthy, stable human beings who can handle the stresses of MIT life and beyond. When was the last time you made a

good friend because some unknown bureaucrat told you to?

Brian Bermack '95

### Iraq Protest Uncovered

I am writing to express my amazement that the staff of *The Tech* failed to report on the student-organized protest against the war in Iraq this week. On Feb. 11, over 40 MIT students staged a creative, non-violent demonstration on the Mass. Ave. bridge to raise awareness about the potential humanitarian and political impacts of the looming U.S. invasion of Iraq.

There is no more important issue deserving news coverage this week. This was clearly an important event on campus, representing a critical debate going on within MIT. The students raised a number of important issues — which deserve to be debated — about MIT's connections to the military industrial complex, and the responsibility of academics to question, investigate, and analyze the policies and actions of our government. It is thus disappointing that *The Tech* failed to even report on this event.

Dara O'Rourke  
Asst. Prof., Dept. Urban Studies and Planning

## Errata

An article last Tuesday ["SEMS Increases Hours, Seeking Viability"] misstated the new operating hours for the Student Emergency Medical Service. Student emergency medical technicians now staff the MIT ambulance from 3:45 p.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 3:45 p.m. until 8 a.m. the following morning for Thursday

through Sunday.

Another Tuesday article ["UA Hears Student Input For Coffeehouse Space"] gave an incorrect year for the founding of the Student Center Coffeehouse. The Student Center Committee started what was then the "Experimental Coffeehouse" during the 1971-72 school year, not in 1987.

## Opinion Policy

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, features editor, and opinion editors.

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**Letters and cartoons** must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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# A Nation Of One

Brian Loux

On Wednesday, Alan Greenspan shared the world stage for a brief moment amidst new allegations of Iraqi long range missiles, riots in Bolivia, and NATO's future. The Chairman of the Federal Reserve warned about widening the U.S. budget deficit and how the uncertainties of war would play out poorly for the injured American economy. What went unnoticed was an interesting comment by Republican Senator Jim Bunning, criticizing Alan Greenspan for speaking out against the Bush administration.

"Your words matter, Mr. Chairman. Maybe more than they should," started the rookie Senator from Kentucky. "You make statements on fiscal policy, which you should not be doing."

That's right. Alan Greenspan, a man whose life is dedicated to analyzing economic policy, a man who fought tooth and nail against Republicans who labeled him an alarmist as he raised interest rates in hopes to cushion the fall of the bubble economy of the late 90's (and probably saving us all from an even bleaker market at the start of the new millennium), should not be speaking about fiscal policy. Instead, Baseball Hall of Famers turned politicians like Mr. Bunning should be the only ones who speak about our money management.

Thankfully, the event doesn't carry that much weight (The Chairman of the Federal Reserve rightfully has more influence than a relatively young senator, and even in some cases

the ruling party), but it does carry a strong message. The humor in the incident is much more than your standard political gaffe. It is in a sense a self-satire. What was seen here was an exemplification of the attitude that Republicans have more or less expressed since Sept. 11: the idea that their policy is so grounded in the right that those who disagree border on sub-human.

The first spark of this attitude appeared in President Bush's speech to the nation after Sept. 11, in which he declared to other countries that "you are either with us or you are with the terrorists." This black-and-white policy has more or less stuck for the past year and a half. The problem is the policy is overly presumptuous that our way is the ideal way to halt terrorism. Elimination probably was the right way to go for al-Qaida and the Taliban government that didn't want us to get them, but is war the ideal way to go for Iraq, and is disinterest the ideal way for North Korea, and is the mediocre attempt at rebuilding government the ideal way for Afghanistan? The policy also placed every country into a NATO-like agreement without them signing anything. The nations of the world must come to the aid of a nation whose enemies were not targeting themselves. And yet we heard little response.

Later came the creation of the Office of Homeland Security. The organization would cost billions of previously unallocated dollars to create and run. The redundancy it shares with branches of the CIA and FBI are mind-bog-

gling. The agency was created on the fantastic notion that it could fill every crack that terrorists could slip through. The necessity of the organization was never questioned by politicians. Those that thought of trimming funding for it were labeled unpatriotic or blind to the dangers of terror. Most Republican agenda items met a similar fate. There was a right and a wrong—take your stance.

Now today we are faced with the issue of a war in Iraq. While the polarity is not the same as before, it is still amazingly strong. There exists strong cases for going to war and for not going to war with Saddam Hussein. However, debate, while active across the world, does not exist in Congress. Actions and speech, such as the plans to fund Turkey (some would say 'bribe' Turkey, à la Bush Sr. with Egypt) for the defenses they would need in case of war, represent the belief that war is inevitable and just. The politically correct phrase for being against war is "President Bush has not made the case," not "I don't want to destabilize the region and make matters worse." The politically correct term for an anti-war supporter is a "surrender monkey," a term *National Review* borrowed from the Simpsons. It is an amazingly biting term; Gallup polls have consistently shown that 30 to 40 percent of Americans and majorities across both old and new Europe qualify as "surrender monkeys." However, television coverage would let one presume that opposition comes only from outside the U.S. borders or from radical college students, protecting the idea that

middle America, Republican standby, and land of values and morality, still sees things from the right point of view. Is it any wonder that most media outlets have harped on France, a nation vehemently lampooned for being timid, weak, and unable to deal with threats to its borders, as being the chief opposition to war when it is joined by Belgium, Germany, and Russia in its opposition? And other populations in the rest of the world?

What brought about such an attitude? What allowed it to continue? While terrorism may be a bloody shirt to wave, and Democratic leaders have remained tacit, and the American media have almost put Ari Fleischer out of a job, there has to be more to such a prolonged period. The only explanation I can conceive is that America's conservatives have come to expect the solidarity and unanimity seen in America's darkest hour, and there has been nothing to tell them they might find otherwise.

One can breathe a sigh of relief that the tax plan may be the beginning of the end. But this problematic attitude itself should not need to experience a long-winded downfall. It has unfairly added credibility to the idea that our policies are a crusade, an idea upon which Osama Bin Laden has been all too eager to harp. The mistreatment of opposition can only breed more and more isolation from allies and friends that were once willing to compromise. But most importantly, within this attitude is something outright un-American, the desire to restrict the right to question.

## Let College Athletes Rake It In

Vivek Rao

Anybody who followed college basketball in the early 1990s will have no trouble conjuring up images of the "Fab Five." A quintet of University of Michigan freshmen, led by future NBA stars Chris Webber, Jalen Rose, and Juwan Howard, transformed their program into a national powerhouse, using their exuberance, flair, and skill to put the Wolverines on the proverbial map. You might be surprised to know, then, that today, a visit to Ann Arbor or a simple glance through a team media guide would yield little evidence that the Fab Five even existed, with absolutely no mention of the team's Final Four appearances, current Sacramento Kings megastar Webber, or the massive number of victories accrued during Michigan basketball's most glorious era.

The cause of all this disregard for history are a number of National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) violations committed by Webber and other Michigan players, many of who received large sums of money from outside parties during their college days. Under the current system, the NCAA enforces a wide array of strict rules intended to keep college sports as "amateur" as possible. The effects of these rules range from preventing any sports-related income for college athletes to making sure they do all their coursework on their own. Yet as completely entrenched as this system is, a recent proposal in Nebraska's unicameral state legislature could open the floodgates for major changes.

On Jan. 22, state senator Ernie Chambers backed a bill that would demand that football players at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln be paid a monthly stipend and be treated as university employees. That football program happens to be one of the most successful in the country, with several national championships, and maximum exposure. Many of the players who don a Cornhuskers jersey and step on the field will eventually earn paychecks for doing the same thing at the professional level in the NFL, but being paid for games and practices in college would be a revolutionary policy.

This is clearly an issue that has weighed on Chambers' mind for some time. He proposed a similar bill in 1980, and in 1988, yet another manifestation of the proposal succeeded in gaining the approval of the state legislature, only to be struck down by a governor's veto. There is evidence to indicate, however, that this time around may be different, especially after current governor Mike Johanns indicated last week that he was in favor of the bill.

*While a select few will sign multimillion-dollar contracts, the vast majority will never catch a whiff of professional sports.*

Whether or not the Nebraska bill passes, it is an important reminder of an issue that merits serious discussion in other states around the country, and perhaps even at the national level. Major college sports has become a massive industry, generating large amounts of revenue, and for some teams, major profit. There is a growing segment of the population that feels that the players, as the ones who score the touchdowns, hit the home runs, and most importantly of all, draw the fans to the seats and televisions, should see some fraction of the profit.

The reasons cited by many of these people, including Chambers, are numerous. For starters, many college players, like Chris Webber and some of his Michigan Wolverine teammates, receive money under the table anyway. Also, a number of athletes come from poor families, many of which even with a full-tuition scholarship cannot afford the costs of a college education. The reason perhaps most stressed by Chambers

is that so many non-athletes are profiting off of college sports.

While awarding sportsmen a monthly stipend certainly seems like a good idea, these are not the right reasons for changing the status quo. The only real issue to be considered here is time. Given the amount of time that some collegiate athletes spend practicing, traveling, and competing for their respective teams, it is almost absurd to demand them to expect nothing financial in return.

These young men and women are at college to learn first, play sports second. While there are those select few who will end up signing multimillion dollar contracts and shoe deals, the vast majority of Division I athletes will never even catch a whiff of professional sports. If colleges plan to continue to force student-athletes to place such a high emphasis on commitment to sports — a separate debate for a later date — they should at very least pay them as if it is a regular job.

In an ideal world, major college sports could be far simpler. The time commitment involved should not really exceed several hours of practice a day, games, and the occasional road trip for away games. Practically speaking, however, this is far from what happens. With long preseasons, holiday tournaments, and extensive regular season and post-season traveling, sports inevitably ends up as the primary focus of a Division I athlete's life, at least in-season. Given that colleges seem determined to continue their quest for profit through sports, they should at least be required to award a stipend to the men and women who devote such a large portion of their valuable college years to their teams.

## Monetary Musings

Ken Nesmith

Opposition to President Bush's proposed tax cuts has been strong. Adding a hint of legitimacy to the usual cacophony of criticism, a bevy of nobel laureate economists and their peers in academia signed a statement attacking the tax cuts. They're much smarter than I am, and probably smarter than you too. That said, it may still be worthwhile to look at what precisely they said and see what sense we can make of it.

In paragraph one of this four-paragraph work, the writers observe that while the economy has been growing, it has not grown fast enough to keep unemployment levels from rising. They decry the two million jobs, positions that would employ a bit under 1 percent of the population (including kids and seniors), that have been lost in the current recession, and fault overcapacity, corporate scandals, and uncertainty for their ongoing retardation of economic growth. Their basic complaint, then, is that the economy isn't in explosively good shape, and point to the overinvestment of the '90s, a round of corporate accounting scandals, and unspecified "uncertainty" as aggravating elements in this mildly rough situation.

So how does this relate to Bush's tax-cutting plan? Why is it such a terrible thing? Paragraph two, we look to you. The writers tell us that the tax cut is not the answer to these problems; the problems cited, recall, are slow economic growth, fewer private sector jobs, overcapacity, corporate scandals, and uncertainty. It's not clear how the government can address any of these problems. Slow economic growth? Governments don't grow economies. Private sector jobs? Harvesting taxes from the private sector and then giving some of it back after skimming a good bit off the top can't be honestly considered a legitimate or efficacious way to generate private sector jobs. Overcapacity? The market has punished those who have overinvested in capacity, usually by bankrupting them. They don't need another clumsy lesson from the government. Corporate scandals? While these have nothing to do with the tax structure, Bush has failed to implement sharper corporate ethics enforcement. But once again, it's worth noting that any company touched in the headlines with even a hint of scandal will be reduced to a stock-ticker memory within days or weeks.

But I've interrupted the laureates. (For those who prefer a commentary-free version, see <http://www.epinet.org>.) What again is the problem with the tax cuts? The primary complaint is that "its purpose is a permanent change in the tax structure and not the creation of jobs and growth in the near-term." The dividend cut deserves special criticism, say the laureates, because it is not a short-term stimulus, it is complex, and it is not part of a "revenue-neutral" tax reform effort. Again, let's consider each claim in turn: cutting the tax on dividends is expected to provide an immediate 10 to 20 percent boost to the stock market, positively affecting nearly all of America in the shortest of terms. On point two, there is nothing complex about ending taxes on dividends. Finally, complaining that the cut isn't revenue-neutral is just

complaining that the government will be receiving less money from its citizens — not the most substantive complaint.

The writers have now laid clear their belief that the government's mission should be to create jobs and growth. We still haven't heard a good plan for doing this. What is needed to answer that question is a plan that involves taking money from people who have chosen to buy a product, live in a home, work at a job, invest in the stock market, drink, smoke, or die — all of these involve a contribution to the government — and then redistributing it, and by that redistribution, create more than they've taken in the first place. It really isn't an easy question to answer; these economists don't try.

The third paragraph expresses concern that deficits will increase, and it will be harder for the government to finance Social Security, Medicare, schools, and so forth. They state that the tax cuts will make the nation's income distribution more unequal. To wrap things up, the fourth paragraph issues a vague prescription for immediate spending measures as well as immediate incentives for investment, both of which should be temporary. In total, the economist's piece seems designed more to generate headlines and sway public opinion than it does to honestly analyze the economics of the tax cut.

Meanwhile, shall we look at what has been the government been doing with tax money lately? The foremost priorities have been military expansion, destroying Saddam, and increasing homeland security. Most who oppose the tax cut also oppose these military spending habits. Reducing the government's revenues appears to be an underused approach towards curtailing military spending.

But we're not just buying guns and waiting for French and German permission to use them against monstrous dictators. We're also buying all sorts of other things. The latest omnibus spending bill contains an estimated \$20 billion in pork for this year alone; watchdog groups are calling it the porkiest porkfest in the history of the other white meat. Representative Jeff Flake objected to the measure's \$90K for the Cowgirl Hall of Fame, \$350K for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and \$750K for the Baseball Hall of Fame before quipping, "I'd nominate Congress for the Pork Barrel Hall of Fame, but I'm afraid legislators would actually try to appropriate money for it." Representative David Obey, senior Democrat on the Appropriations Committee, called it the "biggest back-room deal" in the history of Congressional spending.

Keep in mind that this is what Congress is doing with money taken from citizens in times of fiscal hardship. It doesn't seem to be a responsible or honest approach.

Ultimately, if we don't like the consequences of the tax cut, we'll elect a different president. In our American democracy, the masses, the purported victims of Bush's plans, hold complete power over his political career. In under two years, he will answer to us, not a panel of ten nobel laureates. With a Republican congress, the tax cuts may happen. If representatives can restrain themselves and slow down on the tank-buying and hall of fame building, things might work out well for our economy.



# THE ARTS

## CLASSICAL REVIEW

### In Emerson Heaven

#### Quartet Gives Moving Valentine's Day Concert

By Jacqueline O'Connor

Emerson Quartet  
Jordan Hall  
Feb. 14, 8 p.m.

I had never been to Jordan Hall, at the New England Conservatory, nor for that matter had I ever seen the Emerson String Quartet perform. Upon walking in, I was stunned by the backdrop of an ornate baroque organ, sloping seats that lead to a open stage with four stands and only one chair — not just a chair, but a piano bench on a conductor's platform. Even before they started playing, the quartet impressed me: with the exception of the cellist, the players stand when they play.

The concert, presented by FleetBoston Celebrity Series, opened with the highlight of the night, Beethoven's *Quartet in F Major, Opus 18, No. 1*. The Emerson Quartet set a sort of precedent for the Beethoven quartets with their 1997 recording of the complete set and may be most well-known for this monumental achievement. The quartet raised that bar further, for this audience, with their performance of Beethoven. The piece opened with a beautiful singing tone and sharp exactness in ensemble. Eye contact was established between all musicians from the first note and continued throughout the performance, giving the music a conversational feel.

Still shocked by the lack of chairs, I realized a few minutes into the performance how standing heightened the level of musicianship; the musicians and the music itself gained a sense of mobility. Though many may feel that their traditional interpretation of Beethoven is a weakness in a world where groups attempt to seek the next level of modern interpretation in classical music, there was a sense that night that the Emerson completely understood Beethoven's meaning for these quartets. Cadences were perfectly placed and precise balance was achieved at all times, making four instruments sound like one.

The development of the first movement was marked not only by a change in tonality but a heightened dynamic level and modal contrasts. By the end of the first movement, I realized how wonderful a traditional interpretation could be. Chills ran down my spine as the opening violin solo to the second movement, modeled after the tomb scene

from *Romeo and Juliet*, began with a mournful tone. The great difference in character between the two movements was strikingly effective and kept interests piqued. Even through the development, which switched to

ing brush strokes were impressively executed in perfect unison and the frequent trills were performed with superhuman speed and clarity. Despite the technical precision called for in the movement, the Emerson breezed through the scherzo with ease and into an equally challenging trio while maintaining a visible sense of enjoyment.

The final movement opened with witty banter between the first violin's cascading runs and the ensemble's spicatto answers. This jovial mode was continued throughout the movement even through the short

ble and captivating flow. Shostakovich's *Quartet No. 13 in B-flat minor* opened with a gorgeously dark viola melody followed by the rest of the ensemble playing an anemic answer. The first movement focused mainly on the soloistic capabilities of the instruments. Each part had a chocolate-sounding melody and the intense tutti sections were few and far between.

Despite this initial focus, the piece moved more and more towards ensemble melodies. The second movement featured a lopsided tune played by the second violin. Throughout

the movement, each instrument was used as a percussion instrument. The second violinist, for example, used his chin rest as a sort of wood block. The third movement opened with another sad viola melody reminiscent of the one from the beginning. Within this movement, Shostakovich makes effectual cross-references to lyrical melodies from his fifth and seventh symphonies.

Again, the Emerson took a rather traditional yet extremely effective approach to this work. This group has also made a recording of the entire set of fifteen quartets.

The last piece on the program was the string quartet warhorse, Schubert's *Death and the Maiden*. Despite this piece's propensity towards being overplayed, the Emerson's performance kept interest and life in the music throughout the four movements.

Highlights included a beautifully resonant opening melody in the first movement, a distant chorale to close the second movement, and a "rumpus" country dance in the last movement that

lead to a glorious end. After numerous ovations, the Emerson gave, as an encore, an exciting rendition of the third movement from Shostakovich's *Quartet No. 3*.

The Emerson Quartet truly lives up to its image of one of the foremost quartets in the world. Their passionate energy, deep insight into the music, and palpable enjoyment during performance make each concert a gem.



ANDREW ECCLES

The Emerson Quartet, one of the world's most actively performing string quartets, gave a performance on Friday night at the New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall.

a major tonality, a sad singing quality was felt from the viola and cello lines, keeping continuity going through the entire movement. Unfortunately, the extra-long pauses that were taken before an otherwise gorgeous coda seemed to disturb the flow.

Again, the quartet put on a new face for the bouncy scherzo with a dancing melody and playful character. Technically challeng-

sojourns into the minor and singing passages reminiscent of the first movement. Once again, the Emerson exacted difficult technical obstacles in perfect unison. By the end of the movement, one got lost in the romping melodies and countermelodies and was deeply satisfied at the triumphant ending.

The following two selections on the program continued the trend of perfect ensem-

## FILM REVIEW ★1/2

### The Film that Killed Don Quixote

#### 'Lost in La Mancha' is a Loser

By Jed Horne

STAFF WRITER

Lost in La Mancha

MPAA Rating: R, for language

Written and Directed by Keith Fulton and Louis Pepe

Starring Terry Gilliam, Jean Rochefort, and Johnny Depp

Rated R

Terry Gilliam, alternately billed as the genius behind *Brazil* and the moron responsible for *Jabberwocky*, has never had a great relationship with mainstream audiences. *Lost In La Mancha*, a documentary about what would have been his latest film, is, I think, unintentionally revealing of this difficulty. As hard as newcomers Keith Fulton and Louis Pepe try to depict Gilliam as a quixotic genius unhampered by chaos and improbable odds, the story of the demise of a movie about Cervantes' Don is more aggravating than illuminating, more pathetic than pitiable, and, above all, wildly pompous. Whether this was supposed to explain why about half of Gilliam's movies are unmitigated failures is more or less beside the point. *Lost In La Mancha* is still a real stinker.

Jeff Daniels narrates the story of the would-be-film appropriately titled *The Man Who Killed Don Quixote*. Forever haunted by the catastrophe that was *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*, Gilliam begins the film bent on realizing his creative vision, undeterred by portents of disaster, including

a drastically reduced budget and trouble obtaining a cast. Fortunately for Fulton and Pepe, who wouldn't have had a movie without a disaster, they got one in spades. Gilliam's liberal reinterpretation of Cervantes' work (including Johnny Depp as a modern-day executive transported back in time to become Sancho Panza and French veteran Jean Rochefort as Quixote) is plagued by a series of mishaps including mudslides, the buzzing of NATO aircraft from a nearby bombing range, and Rochefort's prostate infection. Without money, a main actor, or the will to continue, the entire project stalls after six days of shooting. Judging by the bits of actual film footage used in the documentary, this is a good thing.

First, the acutely annoying bits. Top of the list is Gilliam's laugh: a shrill, grating guffaw that barely masks his obvious insecurity and difficulties with reality. Next is the indecipherable babble of his Quixote. Anyone who's seen *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* is well acquainted with Gilliam's glaring inability to edit sound, but Rochefort, who ostensibly studied English for seven months prior to production, is about as difficult to understand as any French actor staring in an American movie about someone from Spain can be.

Now for the merely aggravating. The parade of key grips and assistant directors that the filmmakers parade in front of the camera is about as dull as you would imagine it. The first half of the movie — a

cacophonous blur of uninteresting technical details tinged with a vague feeling of apprehension about the film's finances — is probably enough to doom the effort from the start. Things do get a little bit better later on, but the opportunity is mostly wasted. The disintegration of the film-within-a-film is mildly pathetic, but curiously lacking in a sense of humor.

But the most notable aspect of *Lost in La Mancha* is its ham-handedness. The filmmakers can't seem to get over the (unabashedly pretentious) assertion that Don Quixote is Gilliam's alter-ego, and then proceed to hit the audience over head with an already limp metaphor, devoting interminable scenes to a collection of what must be a thousand model windmills scattered around the set. All this begs the question: is Terry a dreamer, an idiot, or just a prick?

Given that the two

documentarians only previous work was a making-of of another Gilliam flick (*Twelve Monkeys*), I guess they can't help aggrandizing their benefactor. But you'd think they would have just a twinge of shame. Don't think I've made my point? Read this, from the film's Web site:

"*Lost In La Mancha* is less a process piece about filmmakers at work and more a powerful drama about the inherent fragility of the creative process — a compelling study of how, even with an abundance of the best will and passion, the artistic endeavor can remain an impossible dream."

Need I say more?



Jean Rocheforte rides horseback as Don Quixote.

IFC FILMS



## VIDEO GAME REVIEW

# Not Another Role-Playing Game!

'Skies of Arcadia Legends' Lacks Innovation

By Chad Serrant

STAFF WRITER

Skies of Arcadia Legends

Published by Sega

Made for the Nintendo Gamecube

\$49.99

The role-playing game (RPG) genre is pretty stuck-up. At the top of the heap are the obligatory high-profile RPGs. They don't innovate much in between sequels, and they tend to rely on hordes of frothing fan boys (or fan girls). In the middle are the few innovative RPGs that introduce something new. But they're not high profile, so they don't sell. And at the bottom of the heap are the *Final Fantasy* clones made by Unknown Company X. Imagine a RPG that somehow is equidistant from those three tiers. Now, port it to the Nintendo Gamecube and BAM! *Skies of Arcadia Legends*!

*Skies of Arcadia Legends* was a relatively popular RPG on the Sega Dreamcast that was ported over to the Nintendo Gamecube. The plot is extremely cookie-cutter, so I'll summarize: Spunky kids try to prevent evil empire and evil pretty boy from using ancient technology to take over the world. Vyse is the main character and is the typical "I have to explore everything" character I've seen in way too much anime. No wait, his partner Aika is loaded with more anime stereotypes because she a) is spunky, b) has a weird hairdo, and c) has a crush on Vyse and is unwilling to admit it.

Fina fulfills the "soft-spoken cute girl" role, along with her "pet that does all the fighting" named Cupil. The fourth character in the party switches between an old man, a thirty-something skit-chaser and a kind-hearted prince.

The world Vyse and crew live in is interesting. The world consists of several continents floating thousands of feet above the ground. Powerful storms, wind walls, and floating rocks separate the world into different regions. This idea is nice and innovative. But once Vyse

lands on an island, it's time to visit Stereotype City. The (evil) Imperial City of Valua has an upper class and a lower class. The lower class talk about how they are overworked while the upper class tries to shove as much gold into their toilets as possible. Somehow, Valua doesn't have a middle class. The jungle kingdom of Ixa'taka feels like the developers used a "Mayan Civilization for Dummies" as their reference. I won't even talk about Asiatown — wait, I've said too much already.

The core gameplay is standard: go to town, talk to people, buy weapons, kick butt in dungeons, and get experience and goldz0rs. *Skies of Arcadia Legends* tries to innovate each of those elements, but doesn't do enough innovation to truly separate it from other RPGs. Vyse has a reputation that he needs to maintain. During the game, dialog choices can improve his reputation. It is a nice idea, but the choice that improves his rating is almost always the first choice the game presents. It is so easy that this feature is rendered useless.

The on-foot battle sequences have a few good ideas that weren't implemented well enough. Characters can use ranged combat or close range combat. During the fight, the combatants will walk away, get in a better position, or close in on their target. This is important for some attacks that hit line or circular formations. The problem is the player has no control over where the characters go, so there is no potential for tactics more advanced than "attack, attack, attack, attack, attack."

During the fight, the player can change the

elemental attribute of the weapons so they can deal more damage against enemies weak against the element. Unfortunately, it isn't obvious how to read enemy weaknesses. And it's a bit hard to remember what element is weak against what other element. Suffice it to say that you should keep the instruction manual nearby at all times. Learning spells is a simple task; use a weapon of a certain element and you learn spells in that element. A good idea, except too many elements blend together. Purple and blue



Sega's newest offering, *Skies of Arcadia Legends*, is a mediocre role-playing game on Nintendo's GameCube.

both use single-target spells combined with useless status spells that never work. Yellow attack spells are line-based and are thus hard to use efficiently.

Occasionally there are ship battles. Two ships fire cannons and torpedoes. The next turn is displayed and the player can choose four actions to perform during the turn. The player must successfully damage the enemy while preserving ammunition. Based on the player's

actions and dialog choices, the player can gain an advantage or be left vulnerable. This choice, unfortunately, makes the ship battles more plot-oriented rather than tactical. And the coup de grace is the uber-cannon. With the correct plot choices, Vyse will whoop out his "biggunz" and blow the crap out of his opponent. Too many times has it resulted in one-shot kills. What's the point of using cannons or spells if all I have to do is wait until I can fire the superweapon?

As for subgames, the player can discover hidden islands and landmarks for spare change. There is also food for Fina's weapon/pet that strengthens it. And finally, the first person view can be used to find hidden creatures called moonfish that can be caught and traded for rare items. Feels like the bare minimum of games. Then again, it's better to work on the main game than work on subgames, right?

The voice acting needs work. I said it for *Zone of the Enders*, and I'll say it again: Good English, or good subtitles, please! How many times must I defend the acting from my friends when Vyse makes his wimpy attack yell? How many times must Fina rush her lines when she uses an item. ("Let's try THIS!") How many times do I have to cringe when Fina says something? WHY? At least give the option of switching languages! At least Aika is done well.

The graphics have "Dreamcast port" written all over them. Relatively low polygon models are everywhere, and the game suffers from low-resolution textures (look at the explosion textures when you beat a boss). Even worse: repetitive ground textures, and worst of all: Dreamcast hexagons. When you can't do a circle, do a hexagon. When you see a hexagon, imagine if it would have looked better if it had more than six edges. Then, wonder why it wasn't done on the Gamecube.

Gamecube fans starving for an RPG will be satisfied with *Skies of Arcadia Legends*, as it fulfills the requirements of a standard RPG. Unfortunately, it doesn't innovate its innovation well enough to stand out as a truly unique title.

## RENTAL ADVISORY

## Faith in Absurdity

'North by Northwest' Rocks

By Amandeep Loomba

STAFF WRITER

Is it possible to write a film to death? I feel as if I could not have anything at all to add to the huge cache of text written about Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest*. And yet I feel obligated to do so, as if sifting through this film once more in search of some undiscovered nugget of insight were my responsibility, or even my rite of passage as another dork who writes about movies and dreams about Eva Marie Saint.

Let's start there: Eva Marie Saint is so incorrigibly naughty as Eve Kendall in this film that your jaw drops lower and lower with each line of dialogue she delivers to the point where you have to excuse yourself from the screening room until your pulse falls within specified parameters. (Saint's raciest line, "I never make love on an empty stomach," was overdubbed and toned down to "I never discuss love on an empty stomach.") Across the table from this brazen voluptuary is Cary Grant, who turns flippancy into the act of sex itself, and whose sophisticated sexual energy is prodigious enough to make biplanes crash into tanker trucks.

Mix the overtly sexual dialogue (subtext be damned!) with blatantly coital imagery (notably the film's last scene, of a train entering a tunnel) and you're already on your way to one of the most sexually charged films ever

given a PG rating. Throw in some subtler elements, such as villain James Mason's strange attraction to hero Grant as well as his touching relationship with his pool boy/henchman Martin Landau (O those penetrating blue eyes) and you've got a film that's practically depraved.

Then again, depraved is the perfect word to describe Hitchcock. Alfred was a fellow with some jolly good neuroses. His personal problems and episodes of voyeurism and misogyny are exactly what make his films so compelling. It's no mistake that if you were to excise the last one and a half minutes from all of his films with "happy" endings (*North by Northwest* included), you'd be left with the darkest set of work in the western film canon.

Darkest, as well as weirdest. The famous crop duster scene in *North by Northwest* is praised so highly in all circles as the perfect combination of suspense, thrill, special effects and cinematography (not to mention sound editing, acting, set construction and irony) that few people ever stop to ask whether the darn thing actually fits in the film. The truth is, it makes almost no sense at all as part of a continuous story. One man brave enough to point this out, to Hitchcock himself no less, was François Truffaut. Truffaut's *Hitchcock*, a printed set of interviews between the two filmmakers, is not only the best study of Hitchcock's work, but one of the best books on film out there.

Truffaut proposes that the crop duster scene is the kind of scene in which only the greatest of directors could indulge, and that in truth it's entirely absurd. Hitchcock agrees, and points out that that doesn't fail to make it a great part of the film. "The fact is," he says, "I practice absurdity quite religiously!"

Hitchcock's absurd religion makes *North by Northwest* at once light-hearted and grave. The film absolutely sparkles. And for that reason, I suspect critics will be writing about it for generations to come.



Cary Grant lights up the screen in Alfred Hitchcock's classic film *North by Northwest*.

## FILM REVIEW ★★

## Save the Coral Reef!

New IMAX Adventure Film is Just Propaganda

By Vladimir Zelevinsky

ADVISORY BOARD

Coral Reef Adventure

Directed by Greg MacGillivray

Underwater Cinematography by Howard Hall

Narrated by Liam Neeson

At the Museum of Science OmniMax Theater

Take an OmniMax film camera, plop it underwater in the middle of a coral reef, and let it run for forty minutes, filming all the sea creatures that drift by: honestly, I'd be happy. As a matter of fact, *Into the Deep*, which does exactly that, is currently playing at the New England Aquarium IMAX, and it's in 3D, and it's perfectly transporting. *Coral Reef Adventure* tries to do more, and sometimes more is decidedly less.

Most telling is a scene that plays like a distillation of giant-screen documentary clichés. A pair of divers are looking for sharks (the presence of the top-of-the-food-chain animals signifies the overall health of the coral reef biosystem), and they come across this dark foreboding cave, and they float by very carefully, while the narrator expresses concerns about what dangers might be lurking in this cave. Too bad I wasn't there to tell these two divers: what is lurking in this cave is the OmniMax camera operator, because this entire sequence is shot from inside the cave, the mouth of it framing the action.

And thus, instantly, what is supposed to be a documentary film — something that should be interesting, first and foremost, in truth — becomes a much lesser species, a mere collection of cool images, not above faking and recreating events in its quest to manipulate audience.

Admittedly, the cause in this case is perfectly noble: the film works overtime to elucidate the dangers faced by the coral reefs, (10 percent of which died during the last four years, destroyed by the effects of overfishing, pollution, logging, etc.) but the means range from suspect to ludicrous. The whole story pretends to be about this native islander from Fiji trying to find out why the local coral reefs are dying. So he immediately consults

world's top experts on the topic, who send an expedition armed with high-speed boats, rebreathers, an OmniMax camera, a seaplane and a helicopter, etc., and this whole armada spends weeks in the South Pacific, exploring the reefs to their hearts' content, filming mostly bright colorful healthy reefs, because — admit it — this is what the audience came to see.

All the while, the narration is either feeding you statistics (for a quiz next period?), or going for the touchy-feely (the most egregious moment: a mention that reefs really "belong to our children" is accompanied by a saccharine shot of a group of carefully groomed, adorably beaming moppets, and a similar shot, with different moppets, is used again in five minutes). The pathos is milked from anything within reach: even when the celebrated underwater cinematographer Howard Hall gets a severe case of bends and has to spend some time in a decompression chamber, there is a shot of him, made from inside the chamber, with the camera moving in to focus on his face. There are many reasons why you can't put an OmniMax camera inside a deco chamber (nothing metallic is allowed, and there is no space for the camera, let alone for the operator, and there is no way it could move, etc.), so the shot is fake, and I really felt for Hall's predicament (who, for the record, did get better and was back underwater in a month) until this shot, but this moment made me feel shamelessly manipulated.

The only aspects of the movie that do not feel fake are a few cute things here and there: one diver playing with a highly venomous water snake; a CG crossfade from a map to a stunning ocean vista; and, in my favorite scene, a diver letting two cleaner shrimp into her mouth to probe between her teeth.

Frankly speaking, it is hard to think of a commercially viable way to tell the downbeat story of the reefs' terrible situation. A straightforward narrative would, quite likely, not sell many tickets, and just showing pretty pictures would ignore the issue. So *Coral Reef Adventure* makes a compromise between principles and profits, and, as a result, becomes a piece of propaganda, hardly the best genre for a documentary film.



# ILGs Rush over IAP, WILG Rush Ongoing

Rush, from Page 1

not go as well as it has in the past. "During the fall, people have the feeling that you're supposed to look at places," but that feeling often doesn't carry over to IAP or Spring term, she said.

Fenway House holds MIT's only "open bid" system, in which any undergraduate or graduate student at MIT can live there, space provided. Fenway also did not receive any new members from IAP.

TEP received two new pledges over IAP. During the fall, TEP received four freshmen and one junior. Barchi called IAP rush "very successful."

Pika, a coed cooperative, held a number of informal rush events.

Pika Rush Chair Teresa K. Yamana '04 commented that "turnout was not so good," and that they have "one person very interested in the house as a result of IAP rush."

"Despite the changes in the rush policy, I think that Pika has managed to adapt very well," Yamana said. During fall rush, Pika received three new pledges.

"I feel really good about the relationship we have with our freshmen. Most of our frosh spend a good amount of time at Pika," Yamana said. "The long period of time between when bids are given and when the time comes that they ultimately decide whether or not to move in gives the freshmen a lot of time to really get to know the house and feel confident in their decisions," she said.

## WILG rush ongoing

The Women's Independent Living Group (WILG) is currently rushing new members for the Spring term, with events like chocolate buffets, Dim Sum, movie nights, and free cookies.

MIT's six ILGs, established in the early 1970's, are an alternative to the residential halls, 27 fraternities, and five sororities. Most of the houses hold open events throughout the year, and some receive members year round.

# Match-Up Site Sought to Ignite V-Day Cross-Campus Flames

Match-up, from Page 1

ing people on pen and paper. I would like to see photographs of the people I was matched with, especially for people who have reservations about age and ethnicity."

"What if I wanted to meet a woman who doesn't like *Moulin Rouge*?" said another graduate student. "It would be more realistic if the criteria were vague, and I could select both *Citizen Kane* and *Forest Gump* as movies I liked. The form should allow [users] to specify the age range and preferences they look for" in their match.

## MIT alum founded site

"I created the site for the MIT community, especially the graduate students," said MIT alumnus Jonathan G. Monsarrat '89. "They tend to stick to their one department, are older, and may need more help."

Monsarrat, who holds a Course IV (Architecture) degree and received an MBA from Sloan in 2000, spent 30 hours coding the Perl script to create the algorithm for the site and an additional 100 hours advertising and providing customer support for the site.

"I mailed flyers, walked through the halls of the MIT Sloan School

of Business, Harvard School of Business, and the Wellesley campus, and contacted 20 student groups to hang posters," Monsarrat said.

## Matchmaking service safe

The site is intended for people over the age of 18 and carries the disclaimer, "Use at your own risk," Monsarrat said. "There is a stigma about online dating that it is scary because stalkers work on the Internet. This site is only open to people with MIT, Harvard, or Wellesley e-mail addresses, so you are making contact with people who really are from these colleges."

## Obstacles overcome in match-up

"You can't tell much from a profile that answers the question, 'What's your favorite soda?'" said Monsarrat, noting that the computerized algorithm primarily pairs up people with the same ages, drug use preferences, and religion.

"People need to make an effort to meet their contacts," Monsarrat added. "What shocks me is that a student receives a list of twenty e-mails, and doesn't e-mail any of them. Don't be lame."

## Match-up service a success

"I feel incredibly lucky for the success of the Web site, because I

## MIT-Harvard-Wellesley Match-Up Participant breakdown

MIT	1553
Harvard	1070
Wellesley	609
Men	1622
Women	1610
Undergraduates	1432
Graduate students	1279
Alumni	175

Total 3232 participants

As of Feb. 14 at 3:00 a.m.

SOURCE: JONATHAN G. MONSARRAT

never expected that it would impact 20 percent of the MIT community. I just like making people happy," Monsarrat said. "I personally found some interesting matches online, too."

Dash said he looks forward to meeting one of his new contacts, and added, "I probably wouldn't fire twenty shots at once. I want to take it slowly, and to get to know the woman beyond a superficial level."

## Solution to ChessMate

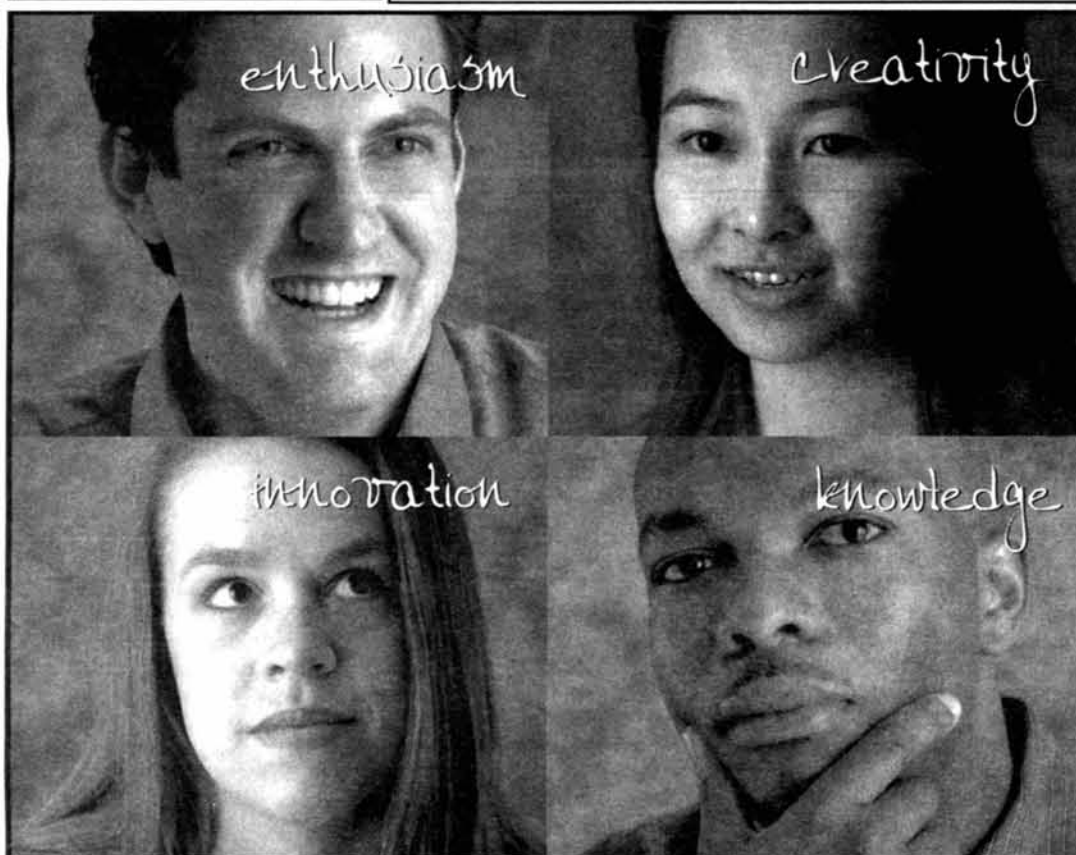
1. Qh5+ Kg8 2. Qh8x

## Solution to Crossword

RAUL	DAR	ROTATE
ERNE	USE	ANIMAL
GOING	BACK	TOCALI
RUNDI	TNT	
ASS	LLCOOLJ	RUM
DEPOSAL	BEEPERS	
ERIN	SIN	DIDNT
REDHOT	CHILI	
ALINE	HOE	ERSE
RENDERS	TRUDEAU	
AVG	PEPPERS	COG
	TAI	NOTTE
CALIFORNIA	ICATION	
OPERAS	KIA	TOME
PETERS	SIB	ONES

from page 12

# Have a great snow day!



## Where it matters most.

As one of the world's leading diversified technology companies, Raytheon is breaking new ground in everything from **defense and commercial electronics to business aviation and special mission aircraft**. As a Raytheon employee, you'll contribute to the development of exciting, revolutionary technology designed to make life better, easier and safer throughout the world.

But it all starts with you. Your creativity. Your knowledge. And your enthusiasm about the future. In return, we offer exceptional training and professional development opportunities. A supportive, down-to-earth work environment. And incredible benefits, including flexible schedules designed to respect your quality of life.

At Raytheon, we strive to be the employer of choice for a diverse workforce by attracting, retaining, and recognizing the industry's most talented, resourceful and creative people.

**Visit our Career Booth  
on Friday, February 21**

Opportunities are available in the following areas:

**Computer Science  
Computer Engineering  
Electrical Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering  
Math  
Physics  
Systems Engineering  
Aeronautical Engineering  
Finance/Accounting  
Human Resources**

Check out our website at **www.rayjobs.com/campus**

for further information, including our **campus recruiting events**. Start your job search by clicking

**find a job**. U.S. citizenship may be required. We are an equal opportunity employer.



Bringing technology to the edge

# Raytheon



**"Anything you learn, you  
can unlearn."  
– Jane Elliott**

Jane Elliot developed the "Brown Eyes/Blue Eyes" experiment for her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She believes the experiment proves that racism is a learned behavior and not a genetically inherited one.

Television documentaries of Jane Elliot's work include the Peabody Award winning "The Eye of the Storm," and "A Class Divided," as well as "The Eye of the Beholder" and a PBS Frontline Series, which both garnered Emmy Awards.

Elliot continues to guide the nation in unlearning the habit of discrimination.

## **Could you handle being a minority for less than two hours?**

*Sound like a joke? Or not very funny at all?*

**Join us for FREE FOOD and eye-opening discussion  
at one of our**

**Conversations about Race and Diversity on Campus**

## **"The Anatomy of Prejudice"**

**Speaker: Jane Elliott**

**February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

**Room 10-250, 6-8:30pm**

**Open to the entire MIT community**

\*\*\*\*\*  
Sponsors: Committee on Campus Race Relations, Office of Minority Education, Dr. Clarence Williams, Dean for Graduate Students Blanche E. Staton, Graduate Student Council, ARCADE, Dean for Student Life  
Presented by: Advocates For Awareness (AFA): Discussing Race and Diversity Issues on Campus

## **Orientation Leader and Associate Advising Applications ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE**

- Interested in welcoming freshmen on campus this summer?  
Apply to be an Orientation Leader for summer 2003.  
[http://mit.edu/orientation/o\\_leaderapp.html](http://mit.edu/orientation/o_leaderapp.html)
- Would you like to help freshmen academically and socially throughout their first year at MIT? Apply to be an Associate Advisor for 2003-2004.  
[http://web.mit.edu/firstyear/associates/news/application\\_03\\_04.html](http://web.mit.edu/firstyear/associates/news/application_03_04.html)
- Are you seeking a paid internship this summer that will help you develop professionally? Apply to be part of a team of Orientation Coordinators who organize and plan the freshman orientation experience for summer 2003. Applications can be picked up in the ARC, 7-103.
- Deadlines for all positions is Friday, February 28, 2003.





Massachusetts Institute of Technology



## Need a Summer Job or Internship

### MIT /CalTech eFair

February 17 – 28

Navigate the jobs from east to west all from the comfort of your home

[www.monstertrak.com](http://www.monstertrak.com)

- **Register** on MonsterTRAK
- Enter your **username** and **password**
- Click on the **MIT eFair** logo
- Choose the jobs and email your resumes



February 18,  
2003

# COMICS

The  
Tech

# FUN

Page  
11

# PAGES

*Filler Space* WISHES YOU A  
**HAPPY MONDAY (OBSERVED)!**

BIG DEAL! IN HIGH SCHOOL, WE DID THIS EVERY WEEK.

YOU WENT TO YOUR MONDAY CLASSES ON TUESDAYS?

YEP. AND ON WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS, AND MONDAYS.

THIS YEAR, TEN THOUSAND MIT STUDENTS WILL OBSERVE ONE OF THE INSTITUTE'S BEST-LOVED TRADITIONS: MONDAY CLASSES ON A TUESDAY.

THE TRADITION DATES BACK TO THE EARLY PILGRIMS, WHO WERE SO HARD-WORKING THAT THEY SOMETIMES HAD FOUR MONDAYS IN A SINGLE WEEK!

DID YOU KNOW?  
IN 1863, BOWING TO THE POLITICAL REALITIES OF THE DAY, PRESIDENT LINCOLN MADE HIS BIRTHDAY A NATIONAL HOLIDAY. AMERICANS CELEBRATED BY RETURNING TO WORK THE NEXT DAY.

"I HATE MONDAYS!"  
FEELING ALONE THIS HOLIDAY? WHY NOT CHEER UP BY FINISHING OFF THE GIANT HEART-SHAPED TUB OF CHOCOLATES YOU BOUGHT FOR YOURSELF LAST VALENTINE'S DAY BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T GET A DATE?

SPECIAL HOLIDAY QUOTE  
"WINDING UP IN THE WRONG CLASSROOM TODAY REMINDS US WHY WE SHOULD PITY FRESHMEN. PASS/NO RECORD REMINDS US WHY WE SHOULDN'T."  
— ELVIS PRESLEY, VIII '52

SURVEY SAYS...  
MOST FRATERNITIES WILL CELEBRATE THIS MONDAY BY DRINKING.

*G. Barone 2/18/2003*

## Hay Fever

by Qian-rifer

How come no one redeemed our coupons?

2-18-03

-JPeng

## THE RICK AND CHESTER SHOW

SORRY, I'M LATE! I STOPPED FOR DONUTS ON THE WAY.

RICK, YOU MISSED THE ENTIRE FIRST PANEL! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE LATE TO YOUR OWN COMIC STRIP!

I KNOW, I KNOW. AND, I'M REALLY SORRY.

"SORRY" WON'T CUT IT, BUCKO! HOW DO YOU EXPECT US TO BECOME THE FOURTH BEST COMIC STRIP IN THE WORLD IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP TO WORK ON TIME?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW GARFIELD SHOW UP TO A COMIC LATE? OR DILBERT? OR DENNIS THE MENACE? NEVER! BECAUSE, THEY'RE PROFESSIONALS! AND, THAT'S WHY THEY'RE AT THE TOP, AND WE'RE AT THE BOTTOM!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

YOU'VE LOST YOUR FOCUS, RICK. YOUR HEAD ISN'T IN THIS. GO SIT IN THE CORNER, AND REPENT!

YES, FATHER.

ALL YOUR BASE ARE BELONG TO US.

*E10*



PILED HIGHER AND  
DEEPER



HEY, MICHAEL... WE NEED TO TALK...

SOFT NOW! THE FAIR JENNIFER!

WIFE, IN THY ORISONS BE ALL MY HYPOTHESES REMEMBERD!

I'M PREGNANT.

SO, TO PHD OR TO PHD... THERE IS NO QUESTION.

MOTIVATION, THY NAME IS WOMAN...

SO, TO PHD OR TO PHD... THERE IS NO QUESTION.

MOTIVATION, THY NAME IS WOMAN...

*copyright © 2002 Jorge Cham*

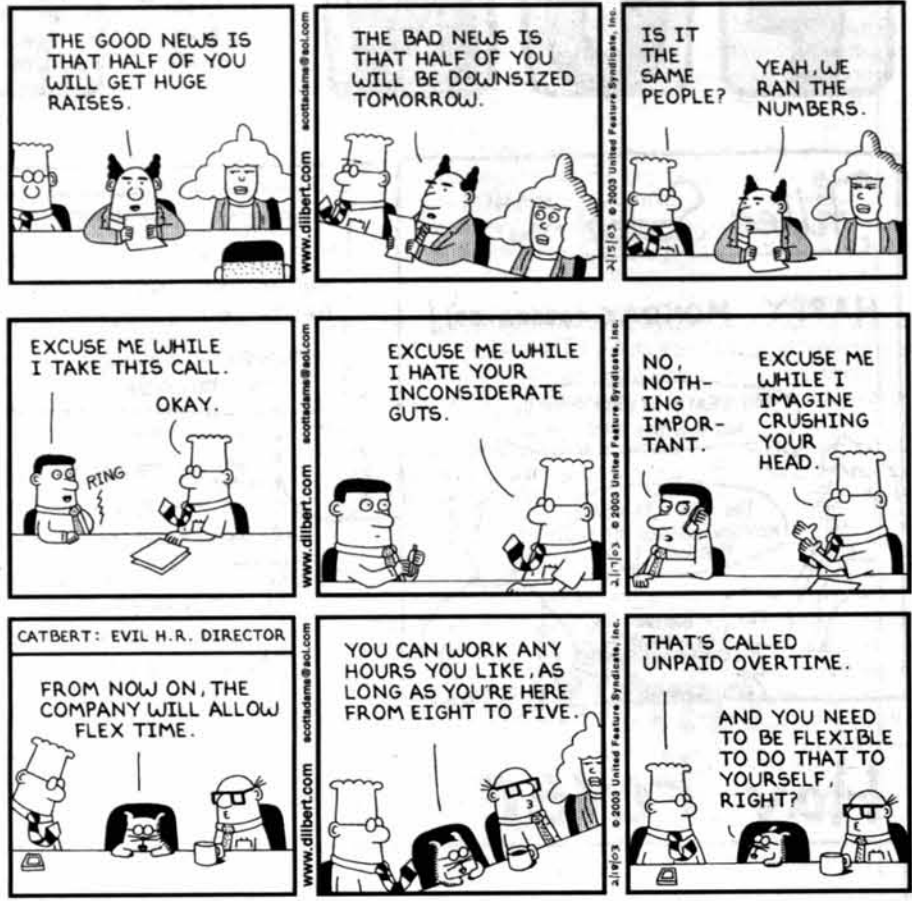
[www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)



FoxTrot by Bill Amend



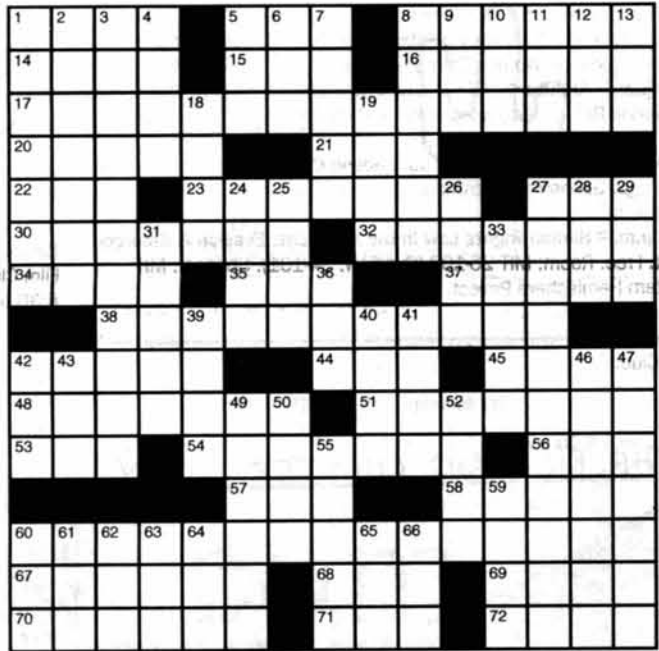
Dilbert® by Scott Adams



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 8

- 1 Actor Julia
- 5 \_es Salaam
- 8 Turn around
- 14 White-tailed eagle
- 15 Exploit
- 16 Beast
- 17 1988 West Coast song by 23A
- 20 African tongue
- 21 T. Turner channel
- 22 Pack animal
- 23 See 17A
- 27 Sailor's drink
- 30 Ousting
- 32 Cellular phone precursors
- 34 Emerald Isle
- 35 Misdeed
- 37 Why \_ I think of that?
- 38 With 54A, Anthony Kiedis' group
- 42 Letter dress?
- 44 Soil turner
- 45 Gaelic tongue
- 48 Gives what is due
- 51 Former Canadian P.M.
- 53 Part of GPA
- 54 See 38A
- 56 Gear feature
- 57 Mai \_ cocktail
- 58 Antonioni film, "La \_"
- 60 1999 West Coast song by 38A
- 67 Puccini works
- 68 Sephia maker
- 69 Heavy reading?
- 70 Roberta or Bernadette
- 71 Bro or sis
- 72 Individuals
- DOWN
- 1 Mark anew
- 2 Exciter
- 3 Dull
- 4 Give temporarily
- 5 Entitle
- 6 Comparison phrase
- 7 Verso opposite
- 8 Noisemaker
- 9 Lennon's love
- 10 Spasm
- 11 Drs.' org.
- 12 Russian chess master
- 13 Actor Wallach
- 18 McDougald and Hodges
- 19 Rounded handle
- 24 Tie with a rope
- 25 Muse of history
- 26 "Star Wars" knights
- 27 Course change
- 28 Large vase
- 29 CO clock setting
- 31 Upright
- 33 Created stacks
- 36 Final degree
- 39 Profound
- 40 Sheep shed
- 41 Bonn mister
- 42 Southern constellation
- 43 Third bk. of the Bible
- 46 \_ and Principe
- 47 Ormandy and McCarthy
- 49 Throw again
- 50 Ship's pole
- 52 Annapolis inst.
- 55 Sweet Williams and carnations
- 59 Italian eight
- 60 Flatfoot
- 61 Learn like a monkey
- 62 Tennis do-over
- 63 Pique
- 64 Remotely situated
- 65 Roman 3
- 66 Costly vehicle?



ChessMate

White to Move and Checkmate in Two



Comments? Email <chessmate@the-tech.mit.edu>

Solution, page 8



Wednesday, February 26

Have questions for the candidates?  
E-mail them to <letters@tt.mit.edu>





# Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Tuesday, February 18

**6:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. - eFair.** An MIT/Caltech collaborative eFair event. A unique opportunity for students to search online for an internship. free. Room: monstertrak.com. Sponsor: OCSA.

**10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour.** Student Led Campus Tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Information Session. The Campus Tour begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**11:55 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - VCPIA Lunch Meeting.** Weekly lunch meeting sponsored by the MIT Venture Capital & Principal Investment Association. free. Room: Tang Center. Sponsor: MIT Venture Capital and Principal Investment (VCPI) Association, MITEntrepreneurshipCenter.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Dreamweaver Quick Start.** Dreamweaver is a powerful tool for creating and managing complex web sites. This session introduces users to the Dreamweaver interface and gives a brief overview of web publishing practices at MIT. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

**2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour.** free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - "From Analog to Digital: Race, Racism, and Technological Production."** Program in Science, Technology, and Society Colloquium. free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: STS.

**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Toastmasters@MIT Evening Meetings.** 77 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge, Building 2, Room 2-131. free. Sponsor: Toastmasters.

**6:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Corporate Law and Accounting Nuts and Bolts: Start-Up Through the First Five Years.** Whether you are a novice or experienced entrepreneur, you must contend with corporate and accounting issues to run your business. Come learn from our panel of experienced corporate attorneys and accountants how to start your business, and keep it running smoothly during the first five years. The four panelists will dispel myths, advise you about best practices, warn you of traps, and answer your questions. Fee: \$15/\$25 - members/non-members; RSVP receives \$5 discount. Students: free with RSVP. Room: Foley Hoag, 155 Seaport Boulevard, Boston. Sponsor: Women Entrepreneur in Science and Technology.

**6:30 p.m. - Architecture Lecture: "Out of a Corner of the 60s."** Talk by Yvonne Rainer, film/videomaker and choreographer, New York. free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

**7:00 p.m. - Men's Basketball vs. Babson College.** free. Room: Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

**7:00 p.m. - Human Rights Law in the Americas: Evasion & Enforcement.** Free. Room: MIT 26-100 (Overflow: 34-101). Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

**8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - International Film Club Film Seminar.** Educational Film Screening. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

Wednesday, February 19

**6:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. - eFair.** free. Room: monstertrak.com. Sponsor: OCSA.

**10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour.** free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - PowerPoint Quick Start.** PowerPoint makes it easy to jazz up your presentations. Get an introduction to what PowerPoint can do. Find out how to create slide shows. The session includes demonstrations of how to use drawing tools, graphics, and create handouts. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

**12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open.** MIT's resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgendered members of the community offers a place to hang out, various activities, and a lending library during its open hours. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

**1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Web Requisition Heuristic Review.** SAPWeb Requisition change/ approval pages tested by authorized user. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.

**2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour.** free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Faculty Meeting.** free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Faculty Chair.

**4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - GARDNER LECTURE.** Endowed Annual Lectureship for on the history of Aeronautics. free. Room: To Be Confirmed. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

**6:30 p.m. - Architecture Lecture: "Contextual Contemporary: Landscape Architecture in Europe and the US."** Lecture by Kathryn Gustafson, landscape architect, Seattle and London. free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

**7:00 p.m. - New Lives for Old Computers: Re-Using Technology for Social Change.** TecsChange is a Boston-based non-profit that trains volunteers to refurbish used computers, then organizes shipments of equipment to communities world-wide. Come find out what they do, why they do it, and how you can help. Free. Room: MIT 2-105. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

**7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - HTC Film Series.** Theme is documentary films, more information to come. free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture and Art.

**7:30 p.m. - Ham Radio Exams.** The MIT Radio Society's Radio Exam Team offers amateur radio exams on the penultimate Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in Room 1-150 (there are usually signs posted). This is the place to earn a new license or upgrade your existing license. Technician through Extra Class tests are offered. \$12. Room: TBD - See Signs @ 1-150. Sponsor: MIT Radio Society.

**8:00 p.m. - Weekly Wednesdays @ the Muddy Charles Pub.** Meet your fellow social graduate students at the Muddy Charles Pub located in the Walker Memorial Building. What will be there for you? \$1 drafts, a variety of beers, wines and sodas, lots of free wings, Sox on the screen. Bring IDs. free. Room: Muddy Charles Pub. Sponsor: Edgerton House Residents' Association, MITEntrepreneurshipCenter, TechLink, Wing It.

**8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar.** Screening of a movie followed by a discussion. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

**8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Swing Dancing.** No partner required. Beginners welcome. free. Room: Student Center 2nd floor. Sponsor: Lindy Hop Society.

**10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. - LIVEmusic@theEAR: Signals and Systems.** Pub Hours: Monday: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the basement of Ashdown House. Enter through the courtyard. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

Thursday, February 20

**6:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. - eFair.** free. Room: monstertrak.com. Sponsor: OCSA.

**10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour.** free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Working Group monthly meeting.** Monthly meeting of Working Group on Support Staff Issues. Topic: to be announced. Also updates from 8 working Task Groups. free. Room: 34-401. Sponsor: Working Group on Support Staff Issues.

**12:00 p.m. - MIT Chapel Concert: Marina Minkin, harpsichord & Na'ama Lion, baroque flute.** Music by members of the Bach family: Johann Sebastian, Carl Philip Emanuel, Johann Christoph Friedrich and Johan Christian. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Wireless and DHCP Quick Start.** This class describes how you can connect to MITnet from a variety of locations on campus. Learn what you need to do to set up your laptop computer for a wired or wireless connection. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Conversational English Class.** Join us for a free conversational English class for international students and spouses at MIT. Most attendees are women able to speak freely who desire to increase their English skills. Class covers a variety of topics including American culture and holiday descriptions. Free. Room: W11 Board Room. Sponsor: Baptist Campus Ministry.

**1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open.** free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Weight Watchers at Work!** free. Room: Women's Lounge-Room 8-219. Sponsor: Weight Watchers.

**2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour.** free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - LCS Dertouzos Lecture.** "Finishing the Revolution." free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: Laboratory for Computer Science.

**4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Physics: Quantum Criticality: New Frontier in Strongly Correlated Materials.** In the sixties and seventies, the theoretical community was profoundly shaken by the discovery of universality in statistical mechanics - a realization that the critical physics of water, magnetism and superfluidity could all be linked within a single conceptual framework. The ramifications of this revolution have since been felt far and wide throughout physics. In this talk I shall describe how the ideas of classical criticality are being transformed into the domain of the quantum. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

**7:00 p.m. - Men's Basketball vs. WPI.** free. Room: Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

**9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Coffee Hour.** Food and drink - an Ashdown tradition. free. Room: Hulsizer Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown House.

**10:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - Movie Night.** Movie and food - free for all!! free. Room: Big TV Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown House.

**11:59 p.m. - Campus Disc Golf.** Do you like tossing a disc? Do you enjoy friendly competition? Or if you're just up for midnight antics, then come on out! Meet outside the Student Center on the front steps, and don't forget to bring a disc! Don't hesitate to come, newcomers are always welcomed - We meet every Thursday at midnight. Questions, contact Daniel Turek, [macgyver@mit.edu](mailto:macgyver@mit.edu). bring your own disc!. Room: Student Center steps. Sponsor: Campus Disc Golf.

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DONG WANG—THE TECH



YI XIE—THE TECH

Left: Snow collects on the columns outside Lobby 7 on Monday. Right: A cross-country skier wends up Massachusetts Ave. Monday. Snow began falling Sunday night and will continue through this afternoon.

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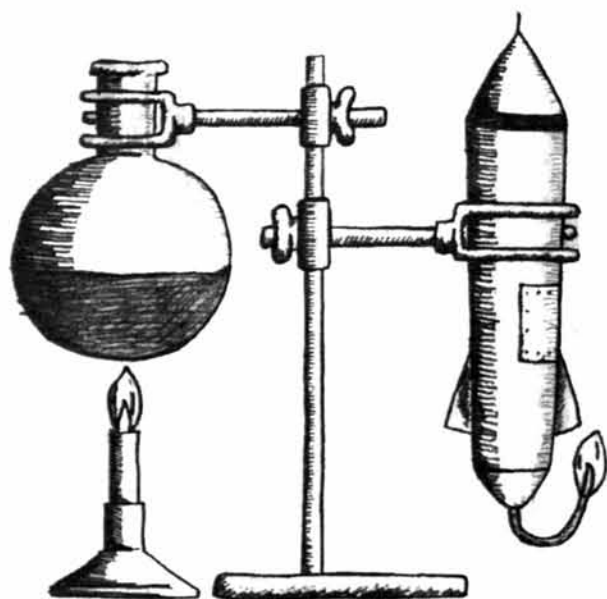
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Charles Vest, President of MIT

Sheila Widnall, MIT institute professor, former Secretary of the Air Force

Barry Bloom, Dean of the Harvard School of Public Health

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Friday, February 21, 2003

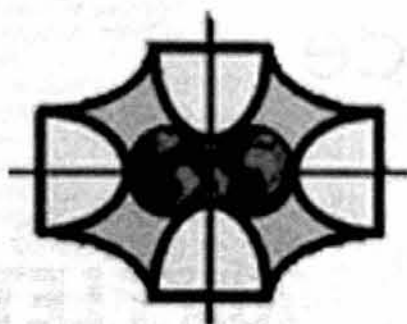
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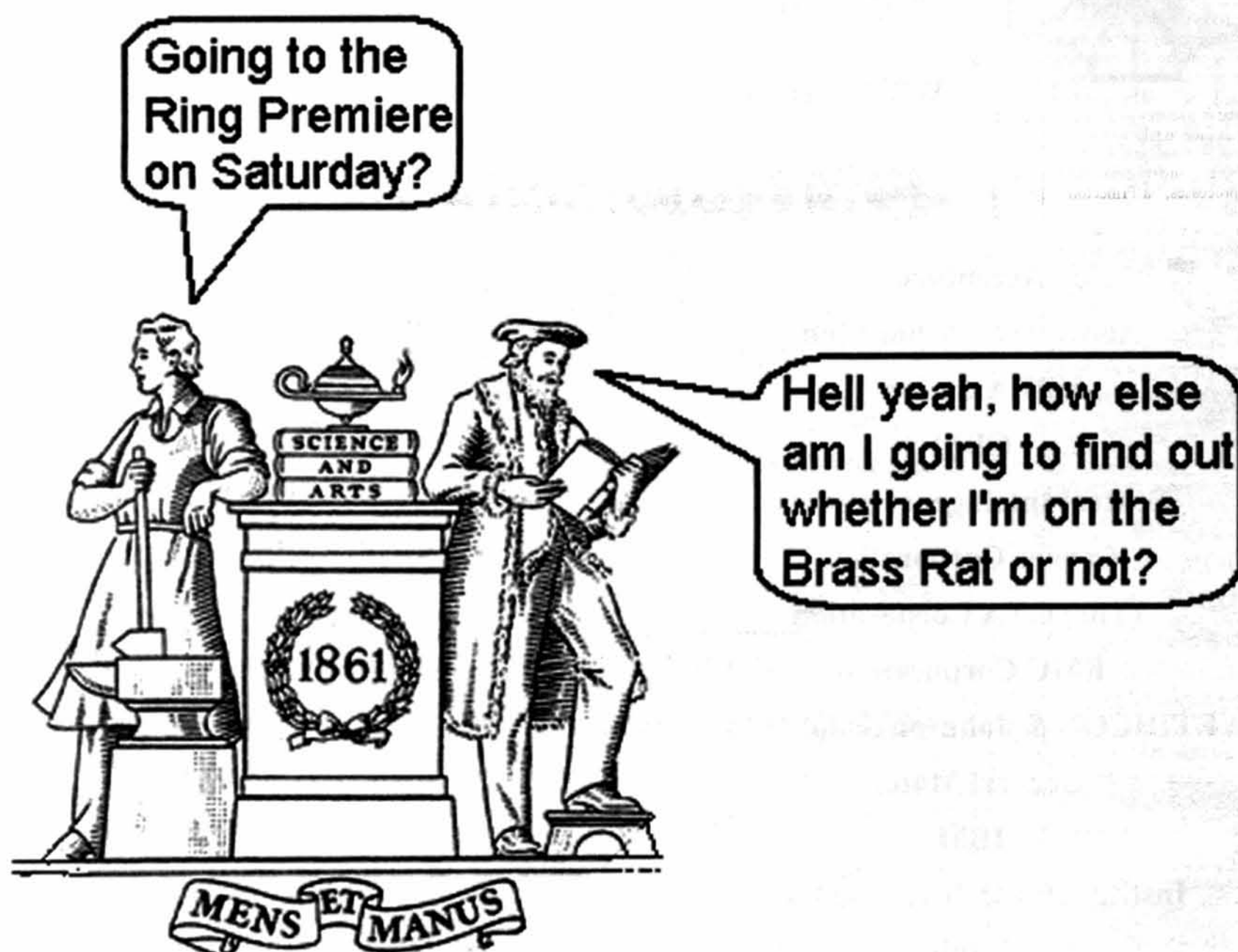


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# MIT Will File Brief, Vest Says

Brief, from Page 1

ies are important for the learning environment as well.

## Court decision might affect MIT

The statement also appears to lay out a case that MIT has a narrowly tailored admissions program. Vest's statement notes that all applicants must reach a "high bar of academic quality," and only then will admissions officers consider race. Using race as a factor allows a student's accomplishments to be "viewed through the lens of the individual's culture and community," Vest said in his statement.

If the Supreme Court decides against the University of Michigan, MIT's admissions system may be targeted as well. While MIT does not use a point system that adds points for members of racial and ethnic minorities to make admissions decisions, race is still used subjectively. If the Michigan cases are decided such that race cannot be considered at all, MIT's admissions system would likely be considered illegal.

The brief is cosigned by Stanford University, DuPont, IBM, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering.

Princeton University, also filing an *amicus* brief on Tuesday, echoed similar worries. Princeton asked the Court "to interpret the Constitution and federal statutes to leave ... institutions with latitude to take race and ethnicity into account as positive factors in their individualized admissions processes," a Princeton statement said.

# NEBHE Bestows Diversity Award on Institute

By Kathy Lin  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT is to receive the first award for "Institutional Achievement in diversity initiatives and community outreach" from the New England Board for Higher Education (NEBHE), on Feb. 28.

MIT's diversity programs, work with women faculty, and work in increasing the number of underrepresented minorities on campus are among the reasons it was chosen to receive the award, said Course VI (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) Professor Cardinal Warde, who nominated MIT for the award.

"This award recognizes MIT's long-term commitment to achieving a diverse campus community," Warde said. "The award, hopefully, will give more courage to our administration to pursue our diversity goals as we, along with other prominent institutions of higher education, face criticism for some of the means we have used to achieve diversity, especially with regard to race."

## MIT works to build diversity

This award comes at a time when MIT is very involved in actions related to campus diversity.

On Feb. 10, MIT announced that

it would allow high school students of all races to apply to its Minority Introduction to Entrepreneurship, Engineering, and Science program (MITES) and Interphase, after anti-affirmative action groups filed a complaint to the federal government about their generally racially-exclusive admissions policy.

MIT President Charles M. Vest also announced last Friday that it will issue a *amicus curiae* brief to the U.S. Supreme Court supporting the University of Michigan in maintaining affirmative action as part of the school's admissions process.

## MIT acknowledged disparity

About 47 percent of the current undergraduate population at MIT consists of "African-American, Hispanic-American, and Asian-American undergraduates," and "there has been steady progress in the numbers and in the percentage of undergraduates who are women," said Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75.

In 1999, a School of Science committee issued a report, "A Study on the Status of Women Faculty in Science at MIT," on gender inequality problems, which the MIT administration openly acknowledged and promised to address.

"MIT has been upfront and can-

did in acknowledging the problems facing women faculty on the campus, and is doing something about it," Warde said.

"Further, MIT has for the past eleven years supported, in conjunction with NEBHE, an annual program to bring under-represented minority students from throughout the six New England states to MIT for mentoring and motivational workshops that encourage this group to consider science and engineering as career options," Warde said.

## Faculty, students applaud diversity

"I believe that most of us believe it is an important responsibility to educate a diverse group of scholars, leaders, and work force for the future," Vest said.

"I've met students from all over America and all over the world," and have "friends from ... Malaysia, Bosnia, and Kazakhstan. Where else but MIT?" asked Shaheer M. Husam '03, a member of the Committee on Campus Race Relations (CCRR).

"The atmosphere in my department is very congenial towards women, both graduate students and on the faculty. Once you enter the department, women and men are

treated as equal in all respects. This is probably the most effective way to increase the number of women in the profession, eventually," said Esther Dufflo, an economics professor who earned tenure earlier this school year.

"I believe that MIT is intellectually and culturally richer because of the diversity within its community," Warde said.

## MIT still has progress to make

"Despite all our best efforts, one would be naive to say MIT is as friendly to many minorities as it is, say, to whites. ... It is my belief that many minorities may have to fight harder than the average white student to keep their head above water, due to factors completely unrelated to their ability," said Douglas S. J. De Couto G, a member of the CCRR.

Warde noted MIT's difficulties "in attracting and retaining under-represented faculty — particularly black faculty — of any gender" as a particular problem to be worked on.

"We are proud of the broadly diverse undergraduate population at MIT," said Vest, but "we still have a great deal of progress yet to be made in our graduate population and certainly in our faculty."

## Tech News Hotline: x3-1541

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## UA Creates SEVIS 'Watchdog' Group

By Christine R. Fry  
NEWS EDITOR

The Undergraduate Association will organize a "watchdog" committee to monitor information reported to the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System.

The SEVIS Auditing Committee, which was created with a vote of 16-3 at last week's UA meeting, will request that MIT publish a list of what is being reported to SEVIS.

"The group would be able to pore over these reports and report on it" to the MIT community, said Pius A. Uzamere II '04, the Next House UA Councilor who proposed the resolution creating the committee. The committee would not see any personal information that is reported.

If the committee discovered that excessive information is reported, then they would publicize the Institute's "unacceptably invasive method of compliance," as the resolution states.

"This is making sure that there's accountability," Uzamere said.

The time frame for putting the auditing committee in place is not yet known by Uzamere. He said that he should have a better idea after he speaks to the appropriate administrators and students this week.

### GSC, UA to collaborate on SEVIS

Uzamere said the UA advised that work should begin immediately to form the auditing committee. This week he will begin to work with Christiane Struve G, the chair of the Graduate Student Council Academics, Research, and Careers Committee, to get the GSC involved in the committee.

Struve could not be reached for comment.

H. Sanith Wijesinghe G, president of the GSC, said the GSC wants to ensure that information is

correctly reported to SEVIS.

"We want to make sure that everything is input accurately," Wijesinghe said.

"There's two components of [what is being reported]," Wijesinghe said. "The student needs to put in the biographical information and the second is what is being input behind us" about basic registration information.

Wijesinghe said that the new auditing committee would help monitor the latter information that is reported.

### Empathy inspires resolution

Uzamere decided to propose a SEVIS monitoring group after speaking with his international student friends about SEVIS.

"It didn't really seem right to me," Uzamere said.

"I tried to put myself in their shoes," Wijesinghe said. He said that the UA has the responsibility to act in students' interest by looking over the administration's shoulder.

"At least I think [the UA SEVIS auditing committee] provides a channel for students to communicate with the college," said Ruby Y. Lau '04, former president of the International Student Association. "I think that if this group is visible to international students, it will be a good thing."

### SEVIS tracks internationals

SEVIS is a system created by the Immigration and Naturalization Service that compiles information on international students studying at American universities. Universities are required to begin sending biographical and class registration information to SEVIS on Feb. 15. MIT has pledged to report only the minimum required information to SEVIS.

## Don't Gamble With Your Future Graduate Student Career Symposium

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Friday, February 21, 2003

3:30 – 4:30

Room 34-101

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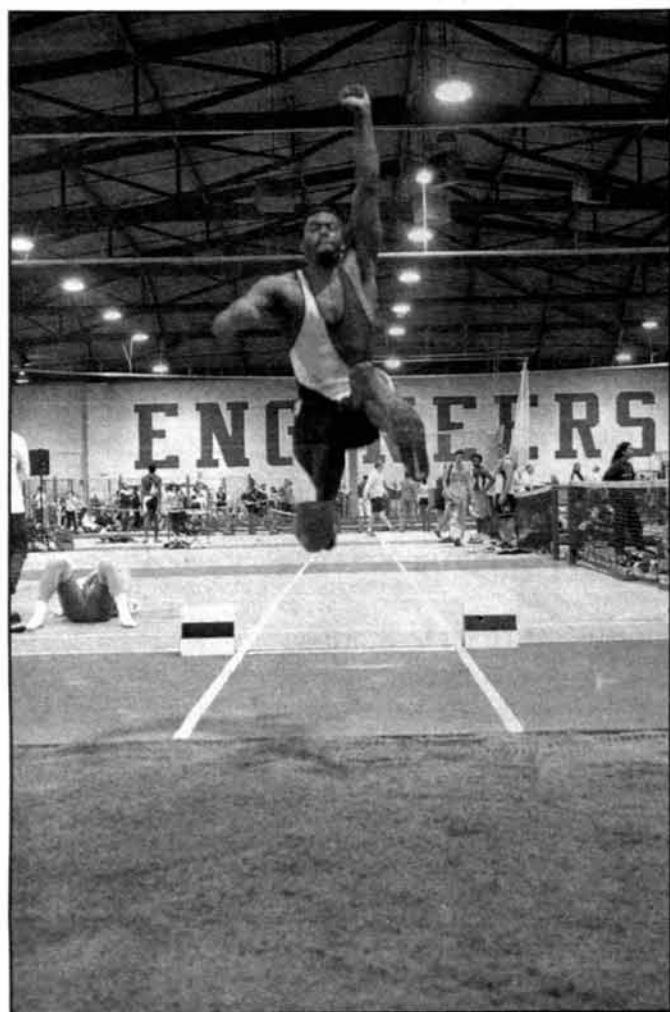
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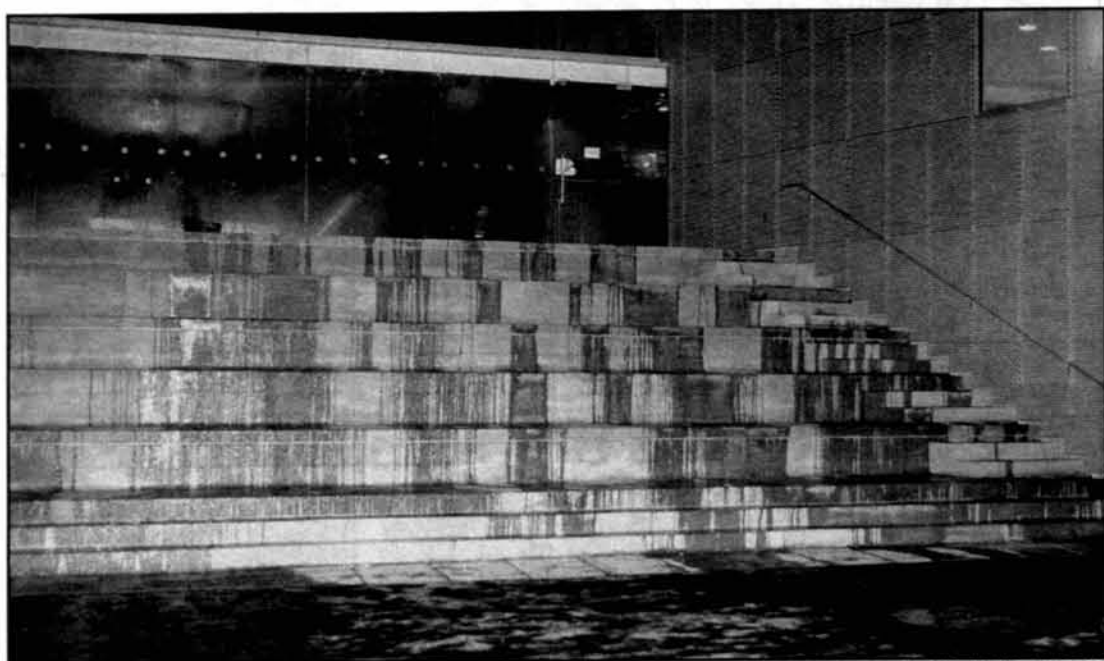




WENDY GU—THE TECH  
Victor L. Williamson '04 competes in the long jump during the MIT Coed Invitational held this past Saturday in Johnson. Williamson placed second with a jump of 20 ft 1.75 in. Out of the eight teams that participated, only MIT and Caltech were scored.



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL—THE TECH  
Michael E. Huhs '05 puts up a field goal in Saturday's game against Springfield College. MIT defeated Springfield 57-50, bringing their record for the season to 14-8.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH  
Water from a broken sprinkler in Simmons Hall flowed down the steps and froze Sunday night. Gil G.C. Carreiro, a Next House janitor, vacuums the water inside.

## Simmons Meets 'Niagara Falls'

Floods, from Page 1

could not provide an estimated time for repair of the elevator.

### Frozen pipe suspected in Simmons

In Simmons Hall, the first and second floor hallways were flooded. Water began pouring from the ceiling of the second-floor glass hallway. It "looked like Niagara Falls," said Simmons resident Dheera Venkatraman '06.

Simmons housemaster Professor John M. Essigmann said he suspected that the flooding was caused by a burst pipe. "The workman who came to reboot the system said, before he started working, that the damage was consistent with a frozen pipe," Essigmann said, adding that he saw dripping

about fifteen minutes before the flooding began.

The pipes in the hallway are sandwiched between two glass panels. "Perhaps having glass there isolates the pipes so that they could break from the cold," Essigmann said. He said the flooding was a "settling-in problem for the building of Simmons."

As in Building 10, a fire alarm was triggered in conjunction with the flooding. "We think the mist set off the alarm," said Elvio A. Sadun '05, noting that it "went off about 30 seconds after the water started."

Student rooms appeared unaffected by the flooding, as the water was contained in the hallway and the area immediately below it. Water flowed out from under the

glass panels to form a frozen cascade down the concrete steps outside. Water flowed "down the walls" to the first floor, "even though it was shut off thirty minutes beforehand," Sadun said.

There appeared to be no damage to the dormitory's services. The impact on the recently-opened dining hall was limited to losing "a half hour's worth of work, because when the fire alarm went off, we had to shut everything down," said Simmons Dining Supervisor Anthony Lyman.

Similarly, the second floor Athena cluster seemed unaffected by the flooding. The ground was quickly mopped up by custodians called in to handle the leak.

The Housing Office could not be reached for comment.



NOEL DAVIS—THE TECH  
Leah M. Windhorst '03 moves past University of Southern Maine defender Avery McGill, a senior. MIT lost Friday's game 0-12, bringing their record to 0-17.



EUN J. LEE—THE TECH  
The MIT Logarithms serenade a blushing Karissa D. Patterson '03 with their rendition of "Baby Face" for Valentine's Day during Introduction to Experimental Biology (7.02) laboratory.



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